Thompson's Island

Beacon

Vol. 4. No. 1. PRINTED AT THE FARM SCHOOL, BOSTON, MASS. May, 1900.

Our Flag Staff

One of the prominent things on our Island that can be seen from almost any view is the flag staff from which some flag or pennant is always flying except on Sunday. The first flag staff of which we have any record and which was a small one was erected on the Island June 15, 1853. This served our flags for nine years until April 6, 1862, when patriotism for our country prompted those in charge to erect a new staff to bear the banner of stars and stripes through a long and terrible Civil War. This staff stood until it was in turn replaced by a larger and stronger one deeply imbedded and strongly braced, which stood braving wind and storm until April 19, 1897, when the topmast broke about half way up and flag and all fell to the ground. The flag staff was without a topmast but a short time for a new one was soon put in place. This staff stood a few months after the topmast was replaced. It was by this time weather beaten and decayed. So on December 5, 1897, it made way for the present one which was made by the Boston Spar Co. and given by the Thomas G. Stevenson Post 26, G. A. R. of Roxbury, Mass. The staff was towed to the Island by the steamer November 28, 1897 and was put in place December 5, 1897. It was sort of a holiday for us as school was let out at ten o'clock so that we could see the staff raised. On Saturday, December 15, 1897 the Nelson A. Miles Camp, Sons of Veterans and the Woman's Relief Corps came and performed the dedication ceremonies and formally presented the staff to the Farm School. After the presentation the flag which was given by the Nelson A. Miles Camp was hoisted by the Sons of Veterans. When the ceremonies were over a lunch was given the visitors. After that Capt. Bragdon took the visitors away in the Harbor Master's boat. The flag staff is eighty-four feet above ground and seven feet in the ground, in all ninety-one feet. The mainmast is fifty-nine feet including seven feet under ground and the topmast is thirty-eight feet. When the staff is dressed up it is as follows; one American flag, one Union Jack, one School's pennant and the international signal code. The pennant flies every day except Saturday and Sunday. On Saturday and state and national holidays the American flag is flown and on some rare occasions all of the flags are flown. We have different sets of flags for different weather. If the weather is stormy the small flag and old pennant are used, on fine days the large flag and large pennant. All the flags which we have are as follows; three American flags 12 by 24, 8 by 10 and 5 by 8, two School pennants of yellow and blue, one twenty feet long and one forty-five feet long, one Union Jack and nineteen signal code flags. These flags that I have named are for the main staff. Besides these we have for the row boats four small American flags, one club pennant, one Union Jack, one Yacht ensign and one doctor's flag for the steamer, and a set of signal flags that are stretched between two small staffs on the telephone house on the wharf.

Our flags are put up and lowered by the same regulations as are used in the U. S. Army and Navy, the flag being run up at the first notes of the bugle and all within hearing take off their hats. It is also lowered by the bugle at sunset, the flag coming down at the last note of the bugle, and all persons within hearing take off their hats as in raising the flag. In connection with our flag staff it will be appropriate to say a few

words about our signals.

When for any reason the Harbor Master's boat is wanted and she is down the Harbor, and cannot be reached by telephone, a large blue flag is flown from the masthead.

Last spring, to show our sympathy for the sailors who are constantly passing by our home and to have a neater staff and to be in keeping with our surroundings Mr. Bradley added a gaff. This with the different lines and blocks makes it look quite ship-shape.

Every year on the day after Thanksgiving the gaff is taken down and housed for the winter and the topmast is lowered half way to keep it from being injured by the winter weather. They are put up again on the 18th of April.

HERBERT E. BALENTINE.

Taking off Quilts

About the first of April we started to take the quilts off the beds. The first thing we did when we thought it was time to take them off was to fold them and place them at the foot of the beds until we got word to take them out. There were ropes strung upon the trees along the groves at first so that we could hang the quilts on them to air. We put them out in the morning and brought them in again about four o'clock in the afternoon. We did this for three days and then we put them on the fence until they got well aired and then we took them in a basket eight or nine at a time to be packed away. We got some boxes from the storage barn and Miss Brewster nailed some paper on the bottom of the box so as to keep the blankets clean. Then we got some moth balls from the office and packed them away. After they were aired so much they seemed better and lighter than before. When we were taking them in, the stairs were pretty narrow for two boys to carry a basket side by side so I went up behind. When I got half way up the stairs I slipped and fell down stairs head first with the basket of quilts. I did not hurt myself because the quilts were on the bottom and I was on the top. I did not start to take the basket up stairs again for a few minutes because I got to laughing with the other fellow over it and it was hard to stop.

JOHN TIERNEY.

Grinding Mangels

When I go down to the barn in the morning at seven o'clock I go down cellar and help grind up mangels for the cows. Two boys generally put them in the grinder and one grinds. When a basket is full a boy calls out "A basket full," and two boys carry it up stairs and Mr. Mason distributes it among three cows that eat it with great relish. Sometimes we grind up mangels for the next morning and it takes about nine bushels to feed the cattle. We feed twenty-five cows, two oxen, one bull and two calves. The calves used to like carrots better and it took quite a while to get them to like mangels. Our grinder has about twenty teeth and has a handle so as to grind easily. Down in the cellar when a boy is grinding we put in a lot of mangels and it makes it quite hard and the boy that is grinding says, "Don't put so many in at a time, I can't grind with so many in. If you think it's easy, come and try it yourself."

WILLARD H. ROWELL.

Harbor Craft

We here on the Island get a fine view of Boston Harbor. All the large ocean steamers entering and leaving this port pass our Island at a distance of about half a mile. There are many tugs, coal barges, and schooners that pass very close to our Island; also many small steamers like our Pilgrim. In summer the harbor is full of all kinds of sailing and steaming craft. Warships come in and go out of the harbor frequently. There are several large steamers that the boys know when they see them, such as the New England, Canada, Prince George, Cape Ann and Gloucester. Some morning or afternoon you will hear some boy that is on the campus yell out, "There goes the Prince Arthur," or, "Here comes the Boston." There are two new fruit steamers, Admiral Dewey and Admiral Sampson, which run from this port to Jamaica. They look very much like warships. Our steamer the Pilgrim is one of the swiftest, staunchest, and best boats of her size in the harbor. I take a special interest in watching the large steamers that come in and go out of the harbor.

FREDERICK W. THOMPSON.

The Turtles

On April eleventh Mr. Peterson sent Henry Bradley two snapping turtles. They are not as large as the Galapagos turtles the boys went to see at Hyde Park, but they are quite large. They came here in a box with hay and something to eat in it. They will probably be put in the water down in the grove where the other turtles were last summer, but now they are out on the gravel between Gardner Hall and the sheds with some iron fencing around them and a pan of water near them. Their names are Mr. and Mrs. Dewey and on the box it said, "Do not monkey with Dewey and his wife."

CHARLES F. SPEAR.

Launching the Scow

On April third Mr. Mason and some of the boys came down to launch the scow. The scow was up near the boat-house. Before this two boys had taken off the canvas that had been over the scow all winter. The painters had been down and had scraped and painted it. The boys put a row of planks down on the ground on each side of the scow running from the scow down to the water, and put rollers on top of the planks. Then two boys went out in a row boat and put out a ninety-five pound anchor with a long rope attached to the end of it. The anchor was about fifty-five feet from the wharf on the north side and about a hundred feet from the beach. With the windlass two boys pulled the rope that was on the anchor into the scow and the other boys got in behind the scow and pushed. When we got it launched we anchored it and passed a rope from it to the wharf.

EDWARD L. DAVIS.

The Second School Grade

In the second schoolroom we have a list called the First Grade List. When the boys are in the first grade on Tuesday they rise and tell Miss Winslow and she counts them and puts their names on the blackboard and marks them by colors, the fourth class green, the fifth class blue and the sixth class yellow. The morning boys are having a race with the afternoon boys to see who will be in the first grade the greatest number of times. The teacher says that the afternoon boys are a little ahead and I am glad we are. We also have in our schoolroom on the blackboard a brick building drawn. This is for the building of conduct; every boy in the second school has a brick of his own and when the teacher checks him she goes to the blackboard and puts a cross on his brick. The way he can tell his brick is his initials are on it. The good places are the foundation, the towers and around the door. On the towers you've got to watch out for the enemy and around the door you've got to hold them off and on the foundation keep it from caving in and you help to hold the building up. I have a good brick and shall try to keep it so no one else can get it. JAMES A. EDSON.

A Trip to Deer Island

Recently Mr. Bradley took several boys and went over to City Point and then went down to Deer Island after some paving stones. On the way down we passed a lot of buoys, one of which was the bell buoy. When we got down there some men who were on the wharf caught the rope which one of the steamer boys threw. Then some of the boys went into the scow and some on the wharf and handed stones to the others and they let them slide down a spout into the scow. We piled them in two separate piles. After we had this done the Superintendent, Mr. Gerrish, took us up to the house and up stairs into his office; we heard a graphophone which made some funny speeches and sang some funny songs. After we had been there about half an hour or so we rode down to the wharf and got on board and came home. When we got within eight or ten rods of land, Mr. Bradley said to slacken off a little and let us land from the scow if we could. We had the spout and a board with which to get ashore. After we got as near as we could, one of the larger boys put the spout from the scow in to the shore as far as it would reach, and we all got in except two. We ran down it and ashore. We got our feet a little wet but they soon dried and we felt as good as before. We got the stones to put around the watering trough in the barnyard.

EDWIN W. GOODNOUGH.

Thompson's Island Beacon

Printed Monthly by the Boys of the
FARM SCHOOL

Thompson's Island. Boston Harbor.

A PRIVATE HOME-TRAINING SCHOOL
DEPENDENT UPON DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS

Vol. 4. No. 1. May, 1900.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE 50 cents per year
Entered at the Post Office at Boston as second class matter.

BOARD OF MANAGERS.

PRESIDENT.
RICHARD M. SALTONSTALL.

VICE-PRESIDENT.
EBEN BACON.

TREASURER.
ARTHUR ADAMS.

SECRETARY.
TUCKER DALAND

MANAGERS.
MELVIN O. ADAMS,
ALFRED BOWDITCH,
H. TUCKER BURR, JR.,
CHARLES P. CURTIS, JR.,
J. D. W. FRENCH,
CHARLES T. GALLAGHER,
HENRY S. GREW,
JOSHUA B. HOLDEN, JR.,
JOHN HOMANS, 2d, M. D.,
WALTER HUNNEWELL,
FRANCIS SHAW,
THOMAS F. TEMPLE.

CHARLES H. BRADLEY, Superintendent.

By Rev. James Huxtable

We were looking out at sea from Marine Park, and knowing the Farm School so well, I was explaining to the gentleman accompanying me, the excellent work being done there,– the rare opportunity given the boys who were fortunate enough to receive its care and training. I remarked that if I had a boy, and for any reason was so unfortunate as to be unable to care for him, I should feel quite content if I knew that he had been admitted to the Farm School. At this he seemed somewhat surprised and asked if I knew that any of the boys turned out well. On inquiring why he put this question with such a doubtful tone, I discovered that he had an idea that it was a sort of reformatory where wayward boys were sent to be straightened out. It was a revelation to him when he learned that boys admitted to the School were selected from good-promising material, and that it had no use for boys that needed reforming– that boys were ADMITTED there, they were not SENT there. From this our conversation drifted to the question of the best sort of school to fit the average American boy for useful citizenship. As a business man my friend said he had often been struck with the fact that among the many successful men whose personal history he had known, so large a proportion had received their early training in the country. The element of their success he traced to the fact that much of their education had been received at the first hand from nature— their life had been more simple,– they had been thrown more on their own resources,– there was opportunity for greater play of their inventive faculties. As I outlined for him the character of the training given the boys at the Farm School, he confessed that it came nearer his idea of what a school should be, than anything he had ever heard of.

A minister once told me that there was one time in his life, when he came pretty near suspecting himself of being a genius. The occasion of it was when the harness of the horse he was driving broke down and he didn't know how to mend it. The farmer who happened by "fixed" it for him, and on discovering that he was a minister remarked, "Well, taint expected that a minister as knows his business has got much common sense." Until then he had never

known how near a genius came to being a fool, and from that time instead of punching bags and swinging Indian clubs for exercise, he made up his mind to fix up a shop in his house, where he might learn to do a few useful things besides preaching. I feel quite sure that a boy educated at the Farm School could never get into any such difficulty without readily finding the way out.

For the first time since we began to publish the BEACON we are obliged to chronicle the death of one of our Managers, Mr. John Davis Williams French, who died at Atlantic City, N. J. on May 2nd. The news comes to us just as we are going to press; further mention will be made in our next issue.

Notes

April 3. Launched the scow.

John F. Peterson visited the School.

Quarterly meeting of the citizens of Cottage Row. The following officers were elected: mayor, George Thomas; aldermen, Joseph A. Carr, Frederick F. Burchsted, John J. Conklin; assessor, Don C. Clark; street commissioner, Frank C. Simpson; chief of police, Samuel W. Webber; jury, Frederick W. Thompson, E. Carl Crowell, Samuel A. Waycott, Frederick F. Burchsted, Frank C. Simpson, Charles W. Jorgensen, Lester H. Witt.

The mayor appointed as clerk, George E. Hart; as curator, Charles B. Bartlett; librarian, Charles W. Jorgensen; treasurer, Henry B. Bradley; janitor, Lester H. Witt. The chief of police appointed as patrolmen, Charles F. Spear and Barney Hill, Jr.

April 4. No school in the second division.

Towed a load of paving stone from Deer Island.

Sash for engine room completed and put in place.

Cottage Row officers and the advanced class attended a session of the State Legislature with Miss Winslow and received much courtesy at the hands of the Sergeant-at-Arms, Capt. J. G. B. Adams.

A lot of magazines received from J. J. Oakes, of Roxbury.

April 5. Semi-annual election of officers of Company X resulted as follows:

Seniors, Pres., C. Alfred H. Malm; Vice Pres., Frederick Hill; Secretary, Thomas Brown; Treasurer, George Thomas; Color Bearer, Charles B. Bartlett. Juniors, Pres., Daniel Murray; Vice Pres., John Tierney; Secretary, William Flynn; Treasurer, Ralph Holmes; Color Bearer, Horace P. Thrasher.

April 6. Garden seeds arrived.

April 7. New woodwork in the shop and printing office painted.

Mrs. Oliver Ames presented the School with basket ball and apparatus for playing the game.

April 9. Placed wash sink in the printing office and piped the overflow from the engine room to it.

April 10. Harry M. Chase and William F. O'Conner entered the School.

April 11. Walter H. Rice entered the School.

Coal bin in shop basement and new lumber racks finished.

Graduates, Howard B. Ellis, Chauncey Page and Albert J. Traill visited the School.

April 12. Killed a cow for beef.

April 13. Painted the PRISCILLA.

April 14. E. Carl Crowell left the School to live with his mother in Hyde Park, Mass.

April 15. Easter Sunday. Concert at 3 P. M.

Graduate, Clarence W. Loud called.

April 16. Flag staff painted.

Towed a car load of hay from the Public Wharf at City Point.

April 17. Sowed radishes, spinach, lettuce, corn and beans.

Received 12 bales of corn husks, 3025 pounds, for filling beds.

April 18. Purchased five new milch cows in the Brighton market.

Several of the boys and instructors attended

the Alumni party in town.

Hoisted the topmast on the main flag staff and put the gaff in position.

April 19. Cottage Row banquet in the evening.

Patriots' Day. Graduates, William G. Cummings, Leo T. Decis, Merton P. Ellis, Herbert A. Hart, William L. Snow and Albert E. Pratt spent the day at the School.

April 21. Freighted the five new cows from the Public Wharf, South Boston.

April 23. First dandelion blossom picked.

April 24. Sowed peas and oats.

April 25. Planted early potatoes.

Old stove in the printing office condemned and a new one put in its place.

Treasurer Arthur Adams and Managers Mr. Francis Shaw and Mr. Joshua B. Holden, Jr. visited the School.

April 26. Began mowing the lawns.

Band began out-door practice.

Arthur J. Willis and Udo A. Poppey left the School.

April 27. Sowed onion seed and oats.

Slide trombone received from graduate LeRoy S. Kenfield.

Little tufts of green beginning to show on some of the maple trees.

April 28. Arbor Day exercises in the P. M.

A lot of magazines received from Mr. D. D. Russell of South Boston.

Mr. A. A. Cole began giving the boys instruction in vocal music.

April 29. Sunday. Graduates, Selwyn G. Tinkham and Merton P. Ellis called.

Rev. W. B. Forbush, pastor of the Winthrop Church, Charlestown, addressed the boys at 3 P. M. He was accompanied by Mr. L. F. Reed, our former Sunday Assistant.

April 30. Painted the Standish.

Shop sink re-located.

Commenced sheathing north end of shop.

Bought new team horse, "Frank," to match Dan; Jim to be used hereafter as cart horse.

New zinc put under the printing presses and lathes.

Farm School Bank

Cash on hand April 1st, 1900,	$279.89
Deposited during the month	$9.81
	$289.70
Withdrawn during the month	$23.95
Balance on hand May 1st, 1900,	$265.75

Cottage Row Banquet

At a special meeting of the officers of Cottage Row we decided to give a banquet to the citizens. At first a committee was appointed; Samuel Webber, Frederick Hill, Samuel Butler and myself. We decided to try and have the banquet April nineteenth. We made up the menu and showed it to Mrs. Bradley and she told us what things we could get here and what things we would have to buy in the city. April seventeenth the committee went over to the city to buy the food. Mr. Bradley gave us some folders and Sam Butler and I printed the menu and a list of the officers of Cottage Row on them. April nineteenth, during the day, the hall was decorated. At seven o'clock the tables were set. All the instructors and a few boys were invited. We had five waiters; four of them were dressed in white duck suits and the head waiter was dressed in black with a white apron. At 8.30 P. M. assembly was sounded and the Cottage Row Band played while the guests took their places at the tables. After they were all seated Mayor Hill spoke. At first everybody seemed to be kind of bashful and quiet, but in a few minutes Mr. Bradley came up and kept us all laughing. Mayor Hill called upon several of the instructors to speak. After the dinner the tables and chairs were put one side for dancing. The band played while the instructors danced. At half past four the next morning the dining room and kitchen boys got up to wash the dishes, and some of the largest boys to take down the decorations. At six o'clock everything was cleared away and the hall looked just the same as it did before the banquet. We owe our thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Bradley and the instructors for helping us, as it was through them that it was as successful as it was.

George Thomas.

Territorial Growth of Boston

Living in a port of a great city as we do and yet on an island away from the city it may be interesting to know something of its territorial growth. Boston was founded in 1630, its original owner, John Blackstone, selling out his right five years later for £30. The peninsula on which settlement began contained about 700 acres. Roxbury, a city by itself, was added in 1868; Dorchester in 1870: Charlestown, West Roxbury, and Brighton in 1874. It now covers 22,472 acres, or about thirty-five square miles.

The Piano

This most popular instrument is supposed to have been invented by Christofali about 1714 and was first used in public at Covent Garden Theatre in 1767. It was developed out of the clavichord and harpsichord from which it differs principally in having hammers to put the strings in vibration instead of having quills so arranged that they could be made to pick the strings.

A Whist Party

Recently the six boys who had graduated from school in the last class were invited to attend a whist party given by the Alumni Association. It was held on the evening of April eighteenth in Arcade Hall, Park Sq., Boston. Mr. and Mrs. Bradley and a number of the instructors went with us. We were dressed in what the boys cali "go away" suits because they are the kind worn by the boys when they leave the School. When we arrived at the Hall a number of people and graduates were already there. Shortly after, Mr. French, the president of the Alumni Association, came. Mr. French invited us into the hall and gave the order of the party. Four people were to play at one table and the winning couple was to move on to the next table and so on till the party was over. At the end of a round a whistle was blown and the number of points a player had won was punched on his or her card, as the case might be. After going several rounds Mr. French called it off and asked for the person with the highest number of points. There were six prizes given out. Miss Brewster, one of our instructors, was the lady who took the booby prize which was a bottle of catchup. After the whist game was over we were given an entertainment consisting of music and reading. One recitation was entitled "Mr. Middlebury's cure for Rheumatism." Later, refreshments were served which were not the worst part of the evening. The Hall was closed about 11-30 and a number of the graduates accompanied us home to stay over the 19th. We spent a very pleasant evening and I am sure we are all grateful to the Alumni for inviting us and to Mr. Bradley for letting us go. THOMAS BROWN.

Repairing My Cottage

One day last week we, the owners of the Elk Cottage, started to repair and give it a general overhauling as we call it. We started by tearing down the front of the cottage and tearing off some of the shingles. When we started I thought we were going to make a bad job of it but I guess we are making a pretty fair job of it now. We have got the front almost built up again and I guess it will be about twice as strong when it is finished as it was before we started. BARNEY HILL, Jr.

Changing Toques

On the evening of April 7, when all the boys were in their seats, Mr. Bradley came in and told us to put our toques on. About one-third of the boys had either lost theirs or had left them down in the sheds. Those who had not their toques with them were told to get them. One fellow came up and said he couldn't find his, it was so dark. So a light was furnished and they started out again. Most all the fellows managed to get one at least. Another fellow came up and said he couldn't find his but he had found two other ones. After we were all seated again Mr. Bradley had the choir boys change their toques first and he stood at the door to see who had lost theirs and those boys were checked. After we had given the countersign, or had shown our toques, we were allowed to pass to the clothing-room and Phillippe, the clothing-room boy, took four boys at a time and fitted them out. The caps given out first were left over from last year's stock and a lot of the boys had to wait for new ones. WARREN HOLMES.

Alumni

JOHN SHAW, '55, has been chosen a delegate from the 10th Congressional District to the National Republican Convention and is also being talked of for congressman, an election for which takes place this fall. Mr. Shaw on leaving this School was first employed in a jewelry shop, and remained long enough to master the watchmaker's trade. In 1864 he became connected with his present business—the wholesale chemical and dyestuff trade—where he became a partner of the firm in 1879. About five years ago, the senior member of the firm being obliged to retire on account of his health, the present firm of John Shaw and Co. was established with office and warehouse at 40 India Wharf and the works at South Boston. Mr. Shaw resides in Quincy where he has lived for more than thirty years filling many prominent public offices. In 1892 he was an alternate delegate to the Republican National Convention at Minneapolis and in the campaign that followed he was chosen a presidential elector on the Harrison and Reid ticket. He is a member of the Home Market Club, the Massachusetts Club, Norfolk Club, Massachusetts Republican Club, Hull-Massachusetts Yacht Club, the Victorian Club, and is a life member in the Veteran Odd Fellows Association.

ARTHUR F. LITTELL, '89, with his annual remembrance of mayflowers to Mrs. Bradley writes very cheerfully concerning his home and work. Arthur was married a little more than a year ago and lives in Milford, N. H., where for the past three years he has been employed in the paper box factory. He plays in the band, belongs with his wife to the Grange and apparently is making himself one of the men of the town, as we might expect. He did not speak of his singing, but no doubt he belongs to some choir; he ought to at least.

WILLIAM ROBERT EASTER, '93, died in Aiken, South Carolina, April 23, 1900. He was born June 13, 1877 and came to this School Sept. 12, 1886. He was in the second class and played in the band when he left the School in 1893 to work on a farm in Petersham, Mass. Later a position was secured for him with the American Tool and Machine Co. of Hyde Park where he remained as long as his health would permit, giving excellent satisfaction to his employers and making many friends among his shopmates who felt his death very keenly. As soon as the Managers of the School learned that he was in consumption, steps were taken for his removal to a different climate and on March 21, Charles Lind, '93, accompanied him to Aiken, S. C. where he died one month later. William was an honest, faithful, steady fellow. He frequently visited the School and one occasion the boys will always remember, when he and Charlie Lind and George Hartman with the Hyde Park Band gave us an entertainment. Previous to one year ago William was a strong, healthy, robust fellow and it seems from a statement of his physician that he was the last of three to die who took this dread disease from a fellow shopmate who himself died some weeks ago.

EDWARD GROVER RODDAY, '94, died in Santa Mesa Hospital, Manila, P. I., March 20, 1900, from an "abscess on the liver, chronic dysentery and a weak constitution." Edward was 20 years of age March 3. He came to this School from the Children's Mission in January, 1891. He was never a very strong or healthy boy; for several months in 1892 he was under treatment at the Children's Hospital, for corea; in 1894 he received further treatment for the same disease at the Cottage Hospital in Baldwinsville. He was in the 4th class and the band when he left the School for farm work in Jackson, N. H. Later he came to Boston and worked for the Eppler Welt Machine Co. In Sept. 1898 he enlisted in the regular army and joined Co. D., 13th U. S. Inft. then stationed at Governor's Island, N. Y. In March, 1899 he went with his Company by way of San Francisco to the Philippine Islands. We had several letters from him, also Manila newspapers. He had hoped to come home soon.

Thompson's Island

Beacon

Vol. 4. No. 2. PRINTED AT THE FARM SCHOOL, BOSTON, MASS. June, 1900.

Address by Rev. Mr. Forbush

On Sunday afternoon April 29, 1900, Rev. Mr. Forbush of Charlestown addressed the boys. He began like this: I want to talk about the men of to-morrow, since the men of to-morrow are the boys of to-day; and also about a boy's life until he is a man. A boy's life is like Gaul which was divided into three parts. For the first seven years he begins to learn things by imitating what he sees other people doing. If he has no little brothers or sisters, he is apt to talk more quickly than if there be a lot of little ones with him, because they would make a language of their own. In these years a boy collects a bundle of habits which are the roots of his whole life and which are hard to break off from. The next stage of life is from seven to twelve or thirteen. In this part the boy collects a bundle of instincts by which he is guided. Here he plays and in both cases develops his muscles to make him a strong boy. All boys like to play better than they like to work and it is true that they should have a good deal of play. Now for instance, take the game of base ball. All sorts of boys like to play that game. It teaches a boy to be quick, active, thoughtful and generous and at the same time he grows strong. The boy grows a little during this period but not as much as he will in the future. The next and most important part of a boy's life is from twelve or thirteen until he is twenty-one or so. Now he grows more than he has grown or ever will grow during his whole life. His will begins to decide whether he will work or not, and whether he will drink or not. He is now in the art of constructing and building his whole future life. When those cottages out in Cottage Row were first built, some boy was thinking hard to plan a little house for his own, and as a result we have twelve fine cottages. Those play cottages are for your pleasure and Mr. Bradley was a wise enough man to see the benefit of them. For an illustration you can trace a boy's life in a box. You put the lid down and when you first come to lift it up you will see a bundle of habits. Then again the second time you look you will see the habits together with the instincts bundled up and the last time you come there, you will see the same habits and that bundle of instincts and also the will of the boy twined all about them. In the city the boys are not so proud as to own shares in a cottage. If they come and see a tenement empty, they will throw a brick through the window simply because it does not belong to them and they have no little house to be so proud of. If they had a house of their own and had to keep it looking clean they would probably be more careful after this had happened to their own homes two or three times. Then, naturally, instead of breaking things down they would have more of a tendency to help build them up. If you boys will keep these three stages of your life in mind you will make excellent men.

DANIEL W. MURRAY.

A Trip to Brighton

I went with Mr. Mason to Brighton to get the new cows. We started at about half past six in the morning. When we got to the Union Station we had about five minutes in which to find out when our car started, to buy our tickets, and to get to the car. As soon as we reached Brighton we went up to the stock yards. We saw a lot of steers and bulls. Two of the bulls were fighting in one of the pens; the fight was between a black and a brown bull. There were between 150 and 200 of the bulls going to England. They came from Chicago to Brighton. We then found out where our cows were and got them. Mr. McLeod went over beforehand to take care of them till we came to get them. These cows came from Maine. Mr. McLeod, Mr. Mason and I drove these cows from Brighton to South Boston. We stopped at about five watering places but they would not drink the water. When we reached Broadway, South Boston, we were joined by Clarence Barr. The steamer brought the scow for the cows. As we were taking the cows from the scow, one of them got into the barn-yard and all the rest that were out went for it. We had a hard time to get it into the barn. When we got home I was quite hungry and ate a good dinner. I had a good time on the trip.

Alfred Lanagan.

Our Boats

One of the things we make for ourselves is boats. First we get a good straight-grained piece of soft pine timber from the shop, then we square it up and draw the shape of the boat on it and work it down to those lines. It is hollowed out inside with a gouge, then the deck is made to fit the hull; after that we lay the keel which is made of lead. The masts are set, then all the cracks are filled with white lead. Her sails are made and she is given her trial trip. If she leans too much, more keel is put on till she sets just right; then she is painted. Two of our boys have built a little launch which resembles our steamer, the Pilgrim, very much. It goes by clock-works. After these boats are built the owners get permission to go down to the water and sail them. We take a row boat and sail all around near the wharf. Sometimes we have races with them. The one who gets defeated keeps trying to build faster boats until he gets one which beats the one that defeated him.

Frederick F. Burchsted.

Brenton's Visit

May 11, Harold E. Brenton, a graduate, made us a visit. He came in the forenoon and stayed pretty much all day. Mr. Brenton is a fine cornet player. He gave us band fellows some points as to how to play. He has a very nice cornet; it is silver with a gold lining. Oh! it is a beauty. Brenton played a few pieces with us and the band sounded better. It made us feel as though we were professionals ourselves. We all enjoy having him come down here.

Samuel W. Webber.

Hill-Dill

In the evening after supper and at noon-time after dinner the boys play Hill-Dill. They play on the left hand side of the walk between Gardner Hall and the play-room. When we are dismissed we run out onto the gravel and the last fellow over to Gardner Hall has to stand in the middle between the two lines and call out "Hill-Dill." Some of the boys from one side run over to the other side and try not to get caught. If the one who is "it" catches a fellow, he has to hold on to him and say, "Hill-Dill; one, two, three!" and the boy caught has to help him catch the rest if he can. Sometimes a boy falls down or gets tripped up and gets his arm scraped but he plays just the same and does not mind it much. Some of the boys get in a line or run taking hold of each other's hands and so get by without being caught. After all but a few boys are caught they yell, "All on one side," and the first boy that was caught is "it". Some times a large boy helps a little boy across by taking his hand and running with him. If the boy that is caught is not able to catch any one else, some of the boys try to get caught and help him catch the rest of the boys that are playing.

John W. Robblee.

Getting Hay

On April 16 Mr. Bradley told eight of the largest boys to go down to the wharf and get the two gang-planks on board the scow. We found the scow along-side the steamer. We carried the gang-planks on board and got a drink before we started. We left the wharf about ten o'clock. Mr. Bradley let Joe Carr steer on the way over. We landed at the Public Landing, South Boston. A little boy caught the bow rope and made it fast while one of our boys made the stern rope fast. There is a gang-plank which is lowered or raised by means of weights, a spiral gear and endless chain. The endless chain is used to turn the wheels and lower the gang-plank. It had two large hinges at one end. We put the small gang-planks on the large one; then we got the gates open. In about five minutes the two loads of hay came along. They were big loads. After we got the first load of hay on board, the next load came along. Axel Renquist and I stood at the foot of the gang-plank and rolled the bales on board. The second load got stuck in the gravel and the teamsters had to throw a lot of bales off and take horses from the other wagon, so we had to carry the hay farther. When the hay was all on board, Henry Bradley and I went and got some mágazines and candy. We boys had the candy. When the scow was half loaded we happened to think of our coats which were in the scow under the hay. When the scow grounded on this side, Louis Means jumped over-board, waded ashore and got a ladder to let us get ashore by.

FREDERICK L. WALKER.

Mowing Lawns

Now that the grass has come to its natural color and has started to grow again, there is quite a lot of mowing to be done. Most every day a boy takes a lawn-mower and begins on one of the four lawns which make our Island look so pretty, and mows all he can until he has to leave either for school, supper, or any other thing that often has to be done. The lawns are kept in good shape all the time, and if any other place can be mowed it is, for everything has to be kept in good shape.

CHARLES HILL.

Cows' First Day in Pasture

May sixteenth Mr. Mason thought it was time for the cows to go out to pasture, so he picked out two cow-boys to tend to the cows. The cows went out the barn-yard gate like a shot. The boys stopped some cows that started to go up the road, and got them headed for South End. The cows were just like school boys going to have a vacation; they kicked up their heels and charged about in great fashion. When they got over to pasture, the most frolicsome cow of all, Frieky, charged into a small tree and broke it all to pieces.

WILLIAM M. ROBERTS.

My Work

My work is in the kitchen. After I fix the fire I wash the hood which is made to catch the smoke. Then I black the stove and water-heater. Sometimes when a great deal of lard is used around the stove it makes grease spots; then I wash the stove before I black it. When it is blacked I chop the kindling for the watchman to start the fire in the morning. After that I shine the water-tank if it needs it; then I shine the brass over the sink. I also help scrub the floor which is scrubbed every day. Saturday mornings I scrub the store-room and two closets. I also chop my kindling so I will not have to do it in the afternoon.

FRANK C. SIMPSON.

Changes in the Band

Since the article on the Band in the March number of the BEACON was published, the following changes have taken place. Gustaf Nilson and Harold Taylor make a fine addition to the trombone section. Axel Renquist and William Austin take the Solo parts. Joe Carr plays the bass drum in Fred Thompson's place, Fred having graduated to the cymbals. Arthur Purdy and William May are trying to play the drum. We must not forget Howard Hinckley who is advancing rapidly in the art of music and also on his Eb Bass. New heads have been put in two drums and the name of the band painted on the bass drum head.

CHARLES A. EDWARDS.

Thompson's Island Beacon

Printed Monthly by the Boys of the
FARM SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor.

A PRIVATE HOME-TRAINING SCHOOL
DEPENDENT UPON DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS

Vol. 4. No. 2. June, 1900.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE 50 cents per year
Entered at the Post Office at Boston as second class matter.

BOARD OF MANAGERS.

PRESIDENT.
RICHARD M. SALTONSTALL.

VICE-PRESIDENT.
EBEN BACON.

TREASURER.
ARTHUR ADAMS.

SECRETARY.
TUCKER DALAND.

MANAGERS.
MELVIN O. ADAMS,
ALFRED BOWDITCH,
I. TUCKER BURR, JR.,
CHARLES P. CURTIS, JR.,
CHARLES T. GALLAGHER,
HENRY S. GREW,
JOSHUA B. HOLDEN, JR.,
JOHN HOMANS, 2d, M. D.,
WALTER HUNNEWELL,
FRANCIS SHAW,
THOMAS F. TEMPLE.

CHARLES H. BRADLEY, Superintendent.

Mr. John Davis Williams French died at Atlantic City, N. J., May 2nd, 1900. Mr. French became a manager of the Farm School in 1890. He was a grandson of John Davis Williams, one of the early managers who erected the present main building in 1835. Mr. French was greatly interested in the Farm School and contributed to its welfare in various ways. His special interest was in the farm and what it might contribute to the education, health and development of the boys. His knowledge of forestry and his willingness to impart the information and to contribute the stock has materially helped to beautify our Island and will serve as a living reminder of his kindly acts. He frequently remembered us with gifts, usually something for the farm, and only the day before his death we received such a remembrance coming from New Jersey where he had but recently gone. Mr. French was a trustee of the Church Home, South Boston and the Stanwood School at Topsfield. He was one of the best known men in New England among progressive farmers. As president of the Bay State Agricultural Society, for several years he had had much to do with the eminence which that organization attained in the conduct of exhibitions. He had also been president of the New England Milk Producers' Union and secretary of the American Forestry Association, a trustee of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, an officer of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society and secretary of the Village Improvement Society at North Andover, where his large farm was located. His city residence was at 230 Marlboro street, where he lived with his father, with whom he had an office on State street.

Forestry was Mr. French's particular passion, and he had received from the Massachusetts Society for promoting Agriculture a prize of $1000 for the best plantation of European larch in the state, 15,000 trees on five acres of land, and a silver pitcher for a plantation of white ash. In a single spring a few years since he set out over 4000 white pines and spruces.

In addition, Mr. French had been since 1868 a successful breeder of Ayrshire cattle of the highest type. He was one of the founders of the National Ayrshire Association, was its

secretary and editor for seven years, its president for five years, and for many subsequent years a member of the governing board of the organization. Mr. French was also a well known sheep breeder, raising early lambs for the market with great success, breeding along lines original with himself.

The funeral services on May eighth were held at the Church of the Good Shepherd on Cortes St. where Mr. French had been much interested. Bishop Lawrence, Rev. Dr. Leighton Parks and Rev. George J. Prescott took part in the service. Many prominent men were present and the Farm School was represented by Managers, Instructors and boys. The interment was at Forest Hills.

C. H. Bradley

Notes

May 1. A peacock received from Manager Mr. Joshua B. Holden, Jr.

Putting in new sewer from Farm House.

A lot of glass jars and jelly tumblers received from Miss Adams of Jamaica Plain.

May 2. Death of Manager Mr. John Davis Williams French, at Atlantic City, N. J.

Mr. Robinson, cutter, here to take the measurements for the new band suits.

May 4. Schlegel and Fottler presented seeds for the boys' flower gardens.

May 5. Walter H. Rice left the School.

May 6. First radishes.

May 7. Several boys saw the parade of RingLing Brothers' Show.

Mr. Bradley and Mr. Mason with a few of the boys attended the funeral of Mr. French.

Several of the boys and instructors went to the RingLing Brothers' Show in the evening.

May 8. Addressed cards for the first Visiting Day.

May 9. A heavy frost.

Mr. Richard C. Humphreys gave a very interesting lecture on his recent trip abroad, illustrating with the stereopticon.

May 10. Sowed carrots.

A light fall of snow.

Finished planting Austrian Pine Grove at the North End of the Island.

May 11. First asparagus.

May 12. Pear trees in blossom.

Graduate Harold E. Brenton passed the day here.

May 14. New type cases put in the printing office.

May 15. First Visiting Day of the season. 161 present. Treasurer Mr. Arthur Adams and Secretary Mr. Tucker Daland here.

May 16. First lettuce from the hot beds.

May 17. Painted the wharf.

The Water Department replacing the old hydrants with new ones.

Mr. Richard Saltonstall, President of the Board of Managers, gave us a Jersey heifer.

May 18. One lot of clothing received from Mrs. J. J. Borland.

Superintendent and a few others attended the Lynn High School prize drill in which John Peterson received his share of the honors.

May 19. Graduate William G. Cummings here.

Put in a coal chute for the shop basement

May 20. Manager Mr. C. P. Curtis, Jr. here.

May 21. Ernest W. Austin began work for Hale and Amory, Architects, 15 Exchange Street.

May 22. Frank P. Wilcox here.

The whole School attended Forepaugh-Sell's Circus.

Phillippe J. Parent went to work for his brother Louis, Proprietor of the Rock Ledge House, Nahant.

George E. Hart takes Phillippe's place in the storeroom also as manager of the F. S. Trading Company.

Schooner "Pemaquid" Captain Wheeler ran into our wharf doing considerable damage for which the Captain settled later.

May 23. New band suits received.

May 25. Finished planting potatoes.

Manager Mr. Francis Shaw passed the

day here.

May 26. Planted lima beans.

May 27. Sunday. Mr. Littlefield and some of the boys attended Memorial Service in town.

Mr. Libby from Concord exchanged with Mr. Macnair and addressed the boys in the afternoon.

May 29. Planting Corn.

May 30. Memorial Day.

Harry W. Lake admitted.

South Boston Yacht Club used the barge "John Alden" for the Judges' boat.

The Band played for Thomas G. Stevenson Post 26, G. A. R. of Roxbury.

May 31. Sold the oxen to Sturtevant and Haley for beef; they weighed 4000 lbs.

Cleaning the Beaches

It is the wharfingers' business to keep the beaches clean. On the north side of the wharf we have to clean about seventy-five yards and on the south side over to the storage barn. We take up the rubbish in a wheelbarrow and make a pile where most of it is. We make a pile on each beach. There is a lot of rubbish that has been there all winter. The rubbish that comes onto the beach is sea-weed, wood, and a lot of other kinds of rubbish. When we get a big pile and the wind is off shore we burn it. Sometimes the rubbish is wet and will not burn well.

EDWARD L. DAVIS.

Sunday Morning Dormitory Work

Three boys beside myself go to the dormitory. The boys are John Tierney, Leslie Graves and Edwin Goodnough. Edwin Goodnough and John Tierney work together and Leslie Graves and I work together. Leslie takes off the clothes on the side that I work and Edwin on the other side. While they are doing this John Tierney on his side and I on my side begin to shake up the beds so that they will be soft to lie on and will look well too. When the beds are all shaken up we put on the clothes. When the beds are all made we sweep, dust, stand the pillows up straight and sweep the halls and stairs that go to the dormitories.

ELMER A. JOHNSON.

Getting Dressing

One morning Mrs. Bradley wanted two boys to work at the lawn flower-beds, so Charles Jorgensen and I were called from our work in the dining-room to do it. First Mrs. Bradley told me to go down to the barn and ask Mr. Mason if I could take a shovel, a pitchfork and a wheelbarrow and get some dressing for the flower-beds on the lawn. I went down and he told me the kind to get, and I wheeled it up to the house and we set to work digging a little flower-bed on one side of the office path. When we got that done we put the dressing on top of the dirt and mixed it in. Then I went over and got some more dressing and mixed it in with the dirt. Then Charles Jorgensen and I went over and took turns bringing the wheelbarrow up again. That was all I had to do, so I washed and helped to serve the dinner.

GEORGE G. NOREN.

Digging Ditches

A while ago the boys had to dig a ditch down near the turtle pond in the grove. The boys that were not in sloyd had to work in the ditch. We would go up into the campus tool-room and get some rubber boots. We would go down at half past seven and work till quarter of nine. Some of the boys would take a shovel and some a pick. The fellows would say one to another, "I have got a gold nugget." The ditch is about one and one half feet wide and is about twenty-five feet long. Mr. Elwood is going to lay a cistern over-flow pipe. The boys that have picks dig up the earth while the other boys shovel out the dirt. We have three ditches dug, one to the north of Gardner Hall, one to the south of Gardner Hall, and the other one down in the grove. The pipe that comes from the Main Building and runs through the grove to the stone gate is to carry the waste water from the meat cellar and from the basement. The pipe in front of the sewing-room connects with the one in the grove. The one on the south side of Gardner Hall is to carry the waste water from the sink in the printing office and from the gasoline engine to connect with the main sewer pipe.

CHARLES A. BLATCHFORD.

The Orograph

This interesting machine was made for a detachment of engineering corps of the United States Army. We all know that to make a profile or one kind of drawing of a country surveyors must go over it measuring its length and varying heights, and then making the drawing in their office. All this required time and great accuracy. This two-wheeled machine which resembles a seed planter, with its escort of three men will do all the work by going over the ground once.

Names of Vehicles

The dog-cart derives its name from the fact that this style of carriage was originally built for sportsmen, who placed their hunting dogs in an inclosure under the seat, and in this way carried them to the scene of the sport. Buggy is from the French word bourgeoise, the middle class, as carriages of this pattern were first used by that class of persons. The homely sulky got its name from the fact that when first introduced people poked fun at it and said that only a sulky man would ride in a carriage built for one. *"The Ladies Home Journal,"*

Recent Work in the Shop

In the spring time there is quite a little reparing to be done. This year as we have been putting in machinery in the shop there have been other things to be moved. The old coal bin has been torn down and a new one built on the left hand side back of the furnace in the basin. A window will be cut through the brick wall for the coal to be let through into the bin. The paint shop will stand where the old coal bin stood on the right hand side back of the furnace. The lumber rack has been taken down and moved beside the coal bin. It has been enlarged and will hold more lumber. The end of the shop has been sheathed up; this will keep the dust and cement from getting into the cupboard, for there are to be cupboards up at the end of the shop to keep all the shop tools in and the things that will be used in the shop.

DANA CURRIER.

Laying Sods

Recently the farmers have cut a lot of sods from behind Gardner Hall. These sods are to be placed in different places. Some have been put out where the boys have been digging for pipes, some down at the wharf, some over at the cottages and in several other places. When we lay these sods we first fill the place with loam, if needed, and tamp it down with a tamper. After the dirt is about two inches from the level of the ground, we place the sods so they fit neatly. We cut the sods to make them fit. When they fit all right we usually take a plank and lay it over the sods and then tamp on the plank. This makes it even with the rest of the ground.

GEORGE E. HART.

Doing Chimneys

After breakfast at half past seven o'clock four other boys and myself go around to the sewing-room, put on our aprons and go to work. I first put the oilcloths on the tables and take the chimneys from the lamps and put them on the chimney table. Those that are clean I put on one part of the table and those that are dirty and need washing on the other part, so that when I get my water I can tell which ones need washing and which ones don't. I have two buckets, one for washing and one for rinsing the chimneys in. I also have a swab to wash them with. After I wash them I wipe them with a towel and afterwards polish them and put them on the lamps again.

CHARLES A. TAYLOR.

Dropping Potatoes

A while ago some of the farm fellows went over to the piece where we had the corn last year to plant potatoes. We each brought a pail or a basket and Mr. Mc Leod brought over four bushels of potatoes and four bags of phosphate. Three boys dropped potatoes and two dropped phosphate while Mr. Mc Leod and another fellow had the plow. We waited for Mr. Mc Leod to make the furrow and we dropped the potatoes and phosphate. I did not know how to drop them and Mr. Mc Leod told me how. We planted for about a week and then we were all done.

RALPH HOLMES.

Alumni

HIRAM C. HUGHES, '99, writes in his usual happy vein of his pleasant home and very interesting work at wood carving and his drawing lessons which he has been taking for some time. He says in part, "I have been away from the School about two years. It doesn't seem long since I left, though, but I never will forget the good training that I had at the Farm School. Some of the rules may be a little strict but a fellow doesn't realize what he has received there until he gets out into the world and has to earn his own living."

CHESTER O. SANBORN, '99, has recently engaged as a section hand on the Boston and Maine R. R. at East Westmoreland, N. H.

JOHN J. IRVING, '00, visited us a few days since. John is with the American Tool and Machine Co., of Hyde Park, Mass. He wears the same happy smile and looks as healthy as ever.

Life's Mirror

BY M. S. BRIDGES.

There are loyal hearts, there are spirits brave,
  There are souls that are pure and true!
Then give to the world the best you have
  And the best will come back to you.

Give love, and love to your life will flow,
  A strength in your utmost need;
Have faith, and a score of hearts will show
  Their faith in your word and deed.

Give truth, and your gifts will be paid in kind,
  And honor will honor meet;
And a smile that is sweet will surely find
  A smile that is just as sweet.

Give pity and sorrow to those who mourn;
  You will gather, in flowers again,
The scattered seeds from your thought outborne,
  Though the sowing seemed but vain.

For life is the mirror of king and slave,
  'Tis just what we are and do;
Then give to the world the best you have
  And the best will come back to you.

June

When the clover is deep in the orchard,
  And the grass waves fresh and free;
When the strawberry sweet, in sunny retreat,
  Waits for the robin or me;
When the bobolink down in the meadow
  Is singing his rollicking song;
When skies are blue and clouds are few,
  And the days are happy and long;
When the butterfly woos the white rose,
  And everything seems in tune;
Oh! then you may hear the clock of the year
  Striking the hour of June.

Boston Transcript.

Birds

We have very many different kinds of birds, such as the yellow bird, king bird, blackbird, English sparrow, bobolink and golden robin or oriole. When Mr. Bradley first came here there were only a very few robins and other birds. Lately there have been many different kinds which are quite tame. Many times when the boys are at work we can see the robins and English sparrows building nests. The robin builds its nest in a tree, while the English sparrow builds its nest in a tree, barn or some place about the roofs. The blackbird takes another bird's nests, such as a robin's. The ground sparrow has its nest in the tall grass. Certain times when the farmer cuts the grass in summer we can see the ground sparrows hunting after their nests, in the grass which has covered them up. The robin stays from March until October and then goes South. The English sparrow stays all the year. The crow stays all summer and winter. We can see the crows fly from the North End to the South End of the Island.

JOHN J. POWERS.

A somewhat varied experience of men has led me to set the less value on mere cleverness; to attach more and more importance to industry and physical endurance.

Huxley.

Thompson's Island

Beacon

Vol. 4. No. 3. Printed at the Farm School, Boston, Mass. July, 1900.

A Musicale

For a second time, through the kindness of our graduates we have been treated to a concert; this one being given by a select band composed of some of the finest players in New England. Some were from Baldwin's Cadet Band, or as it is now called, The Boston Cadet Band, with their leader, Mr. F. E. Partridge; some from the Symphony Orchestra and the Festival Orchestra and some from the theatres about town, among them Mr. John B. Fielding from the Boston Theatre who conducted the band. The concert given previous to this by the Volunteer Orchestra, as they styled themselves, was composed of stringed instruments mostly, while this was strictly a brass band.

On their arrival the musicians went through the buildings and around the grounds; then they all accepted an invitation to lunch on the lawn. As soon as luncheon was over our band started the programme by playing a few selections, then Miss Ila M. Niles sang "Asthore." One more selection from our band then the visitors took the seats which we willingly gave up. As soon as they were seated the boys gathered around behind those who had instruments corresponding to the ones we play so we could see how it was done. They did not have to play long before we opened our eyes and looked at each other. Mr. Partridge led the band for one of his choice selections and so did Mr. Brenton. Lemonade was served at intervals to the visitors and all others. Mr. Brenton and Mr. Kenfield played a selection from the prison scene in "Il Trovatore." Mr. Brenton played on the lawn and Mr. Kenfield answered from one of the upper windows in the house. The answering tones from one to the other was very pretty. Then the band played another selection and it was followed with a cornet solo by Mr. Brenton, the same that he played at Bass Point the following Sunday and received great applause for. Mr. Brenton is engaged for the season at Bass Point as solo cornetist in Lafricain's Naval Cadet Band. Mr. Kenfield is also a member of the same band.

Mr. Charles H. Tompson, one of the oldest and best leaders in New England accompanied the musicians, and beside Mr. Brenton and Mr. Kenfield were graduates David H. Moore who is instructor of the trombone in the New England Conservatory of Music and Mr. Richard H. Merritt who is a member of the Festival Orchestra and several other musical organizations.

Many varied and choice selections were played all of which were attentively listened to and greatly enjoyed.

Following are the names of our kind entertainers who received our hearty thanks.

John B. Fielding	W. A. Harkheim
John S. Leavitt	George W. Marquardt
Alfred H. Mason	Carl E. Merrill
George H. Rowell	Julius C. Engster
Richard H. Merritt	H. E. Worcester
John E. Campbell	R. L. Brownell

Charles K. North C. O. Kimball
LeRoy S. Kenfield Charles H. Tompson
J. F. Park Harold E. Brenton
Clement G. Miller David H. Moore

Signed,

WILLIAM AUSTIN,
Solo cornetist, Farm School Band.

The New Heifer

We have a new heifer which came a little while ago. She, being a cow of Jersey blood, is very much liked. As she is gentle and seems to know you when near her and comes to you as though she were not afraid of anything, she holds a good place among the affections of the boys. She is not like our large or small calf, but is more of a rich and creamy color. When she came she was not put out with the other cows, but was half a week or so afterward.

CLARENCE W. BARR.

Plumbing

A few weeks ago I was told to go down into the cellar and help Mr. Elwood fix pipes. When I first helped him I melted lead and made forge fires. After I got into the business a little I drilled holes in the side of the building to put pipe fasteners into to hold pipe up; and I also held pipes while he would cut and thread them. We have been putting a new drain in the cellar because the other one used to drain the cellar only, and now as we have put a sink in the printing office we need a larger drain because the outlet of the sink empties into the new drain. The inlet of the printing office sink comes from the gasoline engine. Outside the building a little way and connected onto the drain, is a trap. It is used to keep the sewer gas out of the cellar. It has a crook in it which is filled with water so that when the gas goes up the pipe and comes to this water it can't go any farther. There is also another pipe which has been put up. It is connected onto the drain pipe and goes to the height of about six feet inside the cellar, then through the wall and up to the top of the building, with a strainer at the top to keep the dirt out; this pipe is used as a vent. There used to be another sink which was up stairs. The water that used to go into this sink was from the cistern that used to be underneath it. A few weeks ago that was taken down and also the sink. The sink has been cleaned and put back into place, and a water pipe which goes the whole length of the cellar has been connected up to it. The outlet of this sink connects onto the main sewerage pipe. There is a vent which was on the other sink's trap and it is now on this one.

LOUIS E. MEANS.

Making Pork Scraps

Every time a pig is killed there is a large amount of fat pork left. Sometimes it is made into salt pork but most of the time it is made into pork scraps. The boys like pork scraps very much. We cut the pork up into long strips half an inch thick and then cut these up into small squares. They are put in a kettle and are tried out which takes all the morning some times. It's not much work to eat pork scraps, but it is a little more work to make them.

FREDERICK W. THOMPSON.

The Trained Seals

When we were at the circus, all the things were so good, that it was hard to tell which was the best. But I think I liked to see the trained seals. Some men brought four or five of them in a cage and let them out on the platform where the Funny Band played. A man then gave one of them a big cigar. He smoked pretty well. He liked it so well he didn't want to give it up. The seals then played they were a band, and I think they played better than the Funny Band. The largest seal sang us a solo which sounded like a dog howling. The man said he was hoarse and gave him a fish to cure him, but it made him worse. They played ball better than they sang. The man threw a rubber ball filled with gas at the pitcher, who hit it with his nose and knocked it back to him. He hit it with a stick and knocked it to the seal at first base who caught it on the end of his nose. Then the man put a fish on the end of a stick and gave it to a seal to hold on the end of his nose. He held it there awhile and then let it drop. He caught the fish in his mouth when it dropped.

CLARENCE DEMAR.

The Mule

Several months ago Mr. Hart of Concord, Mass. gave the Cottage Row Government a mule which bears the name of Johnson. He was taken from Concord to Somerville by a man who went from that town. From there he was taken by a boy of this School to Squantum, where he swam the channel. Only the citizens of Cottage Row are allowed to use him. It is the duty of the officers to see that he is well taken care of. When a citizen wants to use him he asks an officer, who goes down and harnesses him up. When Johnson first came here he was used very often but he soon got wild. The jolly Ex-Mayor Fred Hill and the assessor made vain attempts to prove "mule busters," with the only result that each found out that his face and nose did not agree with Johnson's heels. For two months Johnson lived in peace. But now there appears one whom Johnson can not run away with and so he is on his old route near the cottages, usually with the same one, Lester Witt. The others are in fear of his heels. C. Alfred H. Malm.

Trips to the Warships

The pleasantest and most interesting trips we have taken this year were the trips to the warships. On June eighteenth Mr. Bradley planned to take all the boys to see the warships. Half the boys went in the morning and the other half which was to go in the afternoon did not go, for Mr. Bradley had visitors to see him, so the other boys were to go later on in the week. On Wednesday morning some of the boys, that did not go on the first trip went and the rest went in the afternoon. The boys that went in the afternoon went on board the Massachusetts and were taken all over the ship by two sailors who were appointed by one of the officers of the ship. We saw all that could be seen by any other visitors. We then rode all around the navy yard and saw some of the old and new ships being repaired. Saturday morning Mr. Bradley took all the boys out to see the warship Indiana in the John Alden, which had it's awning up and was decorated with flags. The band played a few pieces while we went around the ship. The Lieutenant Commander said he would ask us aboard only they were coaling ship. As we passed one of the small boats the boys threw bouquets of roses into the boat, as many as one sailor could very well carry. After we left the Indiana we went to see the Dolphin which was anchored off Fort Warren, and the band played a few pieces to the men of her, then we went home to dinner. These trips were very pleasant and interesting and the boys will always remember them. Ernest Curley.

Presentation of Diplomas

The most important part of our graduation exercises is the presentation of diplomas. There were seven in the graduating class this year, Herbert E. Balentine, John F. Barr, Ernest Curley, Dana Currier, William I. Ellwood, John T. Lundquist, and C. Alfred H. Malm and we all looked forward to the day of graduation with great pleasure. It is not just the diploma that counts but the feeling that goes with it when we hear the encouraging words which Mr. Bradley addresses to each member of the class. The sloyd and blacksmithing diplomas were given out for the second time. Each boy in the School has a chance to get three diplomas, as Ernest Curley did this year. They are signed by the President of the Board of Managers and the Superintendent of the School. Two boys, Charles A. Edwards and Ernest Curley received the blacksmithing diplomas and five boys, Charles A. Edwards, Ernest Curley, Albert H. Ladd, John J. Conklin and Herbert E. Balentine received diplomas in sloyd and mechanical drawing. Dana Currier.

Savoy Sextette

On Wednesday evening June 6, we had the pleasure of welcoming Mr. Aliot with his two daughters and the Savoy Sextette. The sextette was composed of mandolins and guitars which we had not heard many times before. They did not get here until nearly nine o'clock and while we were waiting the band played a few selections. We had quite a variety of music, the sextette, a piano solo by Miss May Aliot and a vocal selection by her sister and two solos by Miss Ila M. Niles, a niece of Mr. Bradley's. We enjoyed every number very much.

John T. Lundquist.

Thompson's Island Beacon

Printed Monthly by the Boys of the
FARM·SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor.

A PRIVATE HOME-TRAINING SCHOOL
DEPENDANT UPON DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS.

Vol. 4. No. 3. July, 1900.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE, 50 cents per year.

Entered at Post Office at Boston as second class matter.

BOARD OF MANAGERS.

PRESIDENT.
RICHARD M. SALTONSTALL.

VICE-PRESIDENT.
EBEN BACON.

TREASURER.
ARTHUR ADAMS.

SECRETARY.
TUCKER DALAND.

MANAGERS.
MELVIN O. ADAMS,
ALFRED BOWDITCH,
I. TUCKER BURR, JR.,
CHARLES P. CURTIS, JR.,
CHARLES T. GALLAGHER,
HENRY S. GREW,
JOSHUA B. HOLDEN, JR.,
JOHN HOMANS, 2d, M. D.,
WALTER HUNNEWELL,
FRANCIS SHAW,
THOMAS F. TEMPLE.

CHARLES H. BRADLEY, Superintendent.

Probably no class of books is more valuable in developing character than that classed as biographical. And the reason is that they describe life. The books boys enjoy most are those of travel, adventure, and war, by land or sea. Story books interest younger children, but as boys grow older they crave something stronger than mere story books. And from the boy's point of view the most interesting books are those that decribe action. The travels are those of some person, the adventures are those of an individual, the battles are fought and won by men.

The boy, while reading, identifies himself with the hero. If the book is about the American Revolution, he imagines himself one of the Green Mountain boys, perhaps Ethan Allen himself; or it may be that he is Marion, the Swamp Fox, or Gen. Greene, or even Washington. If he reads about Paul Jones, he too fights valiantly. Now this characteristic is valuable, for it stirs a boy up to put himself in the place of others greater than himself. It enables him to use these others as models, and it leads him to compare his own difficulties with those of other men. The boy will do all this naturally, without any suggestion, and in fact because he cannot help it.

Biography is the very best reading matter for boys and they should be encouraged to read it, for a man must attain some distinction in the world before an account of his life appears. Then it so frequently happens that the man has had to struggle hard and overcome obstacles and disadvantages that in this way it is helpful. When a boy discovers, for instance, that Christopher Wren, the architect of St. Pauls, was a foundling, or that Garfield and Lincoln rose from poverty and obscurity by hard and painstaking work, that Benjamin Franklin entered Philadelphia with a loaf of bread under each arm, he is ready to attempt hard things himself. If he is poetical he is interested to know that Keats was an apothecary's apprentice, or if artistic, that Murillo was once a slave and copied his master's work secretly. The fact that a graduate of his own school has risen in the world is a interesting bit of biography and leads him to try to do likewise. In fact, when hardships come and difficulties appear, like lions in the way, the boy

who has read the lives of great men will at once think how this one and that one worked hard and prevailed over all obstacles, finally winning success. And he in turn will be inspired to put forth his best efforts and win in the struggle of life. By all means let the reading of biograph be encouraged. Wm M. Macnair.

Notes

June 1. Fret saw received from Miss F. E. Griswold.

June 2. Launched the WINSLOW.

Ten gray squirrels added to our collection of pets.

Steamer PILGRIM went to Lawley's for her semi-annual overhauling.

Graduates George Buchan and William L. Snow visited the School with friends.

Miss Strong with the first class visited the Public Library, Art Museum and Natural History Rooms.

June 6. The Savoy Sextette composed of mandolins, guitars and vocal music gave us an entertainment in the evening.

June 7. New rigging placed on the WINSLOW.

Annual U. S. Government inspection of PILGRIM.

June 8. Steamer went into commission again.

Three books for the library received from Mr. E. E. Dewey.

The squirrels in the re-modelled cage placed under the big elm.

June 9. Four graduates, Harold E. Brenton, LeRoy S. Kenfield, David H. Moore and Richard H. Merritt, with Mr. John B. Fielding of the Boston Theatre as conductor and Mr. F. E. Partridge of the Boston Cadet Band with fifteen of his musicians and Miss Ila M. Niles as soloist gave a concert on the lawn in the afternoon.

June 12. Harold E. Burnes and Weston Esau entered the School.

June 13. Visiting Day. 195 present. Treasurer Mr. Arthur Adams and manager I. Tucker Burr, Jr., present also graduates Merton P. Ellis, Walter Hermann and Clarence W. Loud.

June 15. The school year closed with graduation exercises. A class of seven completed the course and received diplomas. They were addressed by Mrs. Julia Ward Howe.

June 16. A lot of literature received from Miss Marie McKim.

June 18. Holiday. A squad of boys visited the war boats in the upper harbor.

June 19. Samuel F. Butler left the School to work in the office of the N. E. Telephone and Telegraph Co., 104 Milk St., Boston.

A railroad map of the United States presented to the School by graduate John Shaw.

June 20. Thomas Brown left the School to work for Hilton and Aldrich Co., commission merchants, 39 South Market St.

June 21. A number of instructors and a squad of boys visited the war vessels.

June 22. All the boys went on an excursion about the lower harbor and the war vessels Indiana and Dolphin.

Graduates William B. Winters and Phillippe J. Parent here.

June 23. Frank W. Harris left the School to work for Dr. Joseph R. Draper of Westford, Mass.

June 25. Joseph A. Carr left the School to work for Mr. J. T. Coolidge, Jr. at Portsmouth, N. H.

PILGRIM towed a load of dressing from Walworth's.

Manager Mr. Francis Shaw visited the School.

A squad of thirty boys went into camp on Oak Knoll. It was named Camp Grew.

June 26. Joseph Keller entered the School.

June 27. Mr. M. B. Thrasher made us a visit, also graduate George Thompson.

June 28. Visiting Day. 168 present. Graduates George Buchan and Edward Steinbrick among the visitors.

June 29. A very high wind blowed all night. Two boats driven on our beach.

June 30. Wind continued to blow and another boat came ashore.

William and Frank Roberts left the School to live with their mother at 132 Washington St., E. Somerville.

Farm School Bank

Cash on hand June 1st, 1900,	$271.24
Deposited during the month	46.58
	$317.82
Withdrawn during the month	12.32
Balance July 1st, 1900,	$305.50

Promotions

From the Sixth Class to the Fifth Class

Ralph P. Ingalls — Horace P. Thrasher
Ernest N. Jorgensen — Harris H. Todd
Joseph Pratt

From the Fifth Class to the Fourth Class

Ralph O. Anderson — George A. C. McKenzie
Walter L. Butler — Charles W. O'Conner
William C. J. Frueh — C. James Pratt
George I. Leighton — Frank E. Welch

From the Fourth Class to the Third Class

C. Henry Bradley — Elmer A. Johnson
Don C. Clark — William B. May
Andrew W. Dean — Walter D. Norwood
Clarence DeMar — John J. Powers
James A. Edson — Joseph E. K. Robblee
William Flynn — C. Newton Rowell
Edwin W. Goodnough — Willard H. Rowell
Leslie W. Graves — John Tierney
George E. Hicks — Lester H. Witt
Barney Hill — Carl L. Wittig
Ralph Holmes

From the Third Class to the Second Class

Charles A. Blatchford — Axel E. Renquist
Edward L. Davis — John W. Robblee
Howard L. Hinckley — Frank C. Simpson
Louis E. Means — Charles F. Spear
Daniel Murray — Harold S. Taylor
Arthur I. Purdy — Samuel A. Waycott

From the Second Class to the First Class

Clarence W. Barr — Alfred Lanagan
Charles B. Bartlett — George G. Noren
George F. Burke — Charles A. Taylor
John J. Conklin — George Thomas
Charles A. Edwards — Thomas W. Tierney
George E. Hart — Frederick F. Burchsted
Charles W. Jorgensen — Samuel W. Webber
Daniel W. Laighton

Cutting Soap

Our hard soap comes in seventy-five pound boxes, a hundred cakes in each box, and when the boxes are opened the cakes are too soft and too large to be used. So the boxes are taken up into the attic where there are two cases of shelves and the soap is cut, each cake into two or three pieces, and put on the shelves to dry. We have to keep one case full all the time. The soap used to be cut into thirds but the cakes in the last lot were not as large, so we cut them in halves. The boys that cut are Barney Hill and myself. Each day when we get done we nail the boxes up that we have emptied and take them up into the west loft, where all the wooden boxes are kept.

CHARLES F. SPEAR.

Cleaning up in the New Grove

We started at the south side of the little grove at the North End and scraped up all the bad dirt that was dug out of the holes that we planted trees in. We do not put all of the dirt that is dug out back again. We put in the good soil or loam because the sub soil is not good. We put all of the sub soil one side and get enough loam to fill the hole within six inches of the top and then put about two inches of subsoil on top so that the grass will not grow around the tree. The hole that we plant the tree in is about two feet deep and four feet across. We put all of the bad dirt into our wheelbarrows and emptied it over the bank. We worked at that for three days. The third day we had to use a broom made of switches. When we had finished cleaning up in that grove we went down to the nursery and fixed up the places where the young trees had been dug up. After we fixed up these places we began to hoe the weeds out. We had to be careful so as not to bruise the little trees. After we had hoed quite a lot Mr. Mason raked up some of the weeds and other rubbish and we carried away the weeds in our wheelbarrows.

CHARLES N. ROWELL.

Bird's Eggs

There are many different kinds of birds on the Island, such as sparrows, robins, golden orioles, crows, blackbirds, bobolinks, catbirds, bluebirds, sand peeps, thrushes, yellow birds, kingbirds, chickadees, woodpeckers, marsh larks, and humming birds. These birds all nest in different places about our Island and are one of the pleasant features of it. A sparrow's egg is three quarters of an inch long and three eighths of an inch thick; it is pink with light green spots upon it. A robin's egg is a light blue color. A crow's egg is the largest of any about here and is about two inches long and is a greenish blue with dark brown spots upon it. A blackbird's egg is the same color but it is smaller. The boys generally find about five eggs in a robin's nest and are always careful not to disturb them. DANIEL W. LAIGHTON.

The Squirrels

A few weeks ago Mr. Bradley brought home ten gray squirrels. They were all young. The big squirrel cage was brought up and put by the red bench by the large elm tree and the squirrels were put in it. After it had been there a few days the squirrels were taken out and put in a smaller cage and the large one was taken to the shop for repairs. The legs to the stand had to be fixed, then the cage was painted green with a red roof. Inside, up under the roof, are two little rooms for them to sleep in with doors to them. In the middle of the cage is a small tree on which the squirrels jump and frisk around. The first few days the squirrels were afraid and would all huddle up in one corner of the cage. The doors on their sleeping rooms were shut down during the day so they could be seen and were opened again at night. I feed them upon bread, rye, oats, corn, buckwheat and barley and give them water to drink. I also give them hard-shelled nuts once a day. The squirrels do not have to be shut out of their rooms now because they are fast getting tame. They will come down on the floor of the cage and play around when anyone is about. Sometimes two squirrels will get to fighting at the top of the cage and both will fall, but they always land on their feet. They have got so tame that I have to scare them away from the door of the cage when I go in. The floor is covered with sawdust all the time. They like the yellow part of the daisy and I pick a handful every day for them. When they are eating they will sit in different places, some on the floor, on the tree, and others in the doorway of their rooms. Nine of them have nice bushy tails, one had hurt his tail sometime and a lot of the fur is gone. We love to watch them they are so lively. EDWARD B. TAYLOR.

Killing Mosquitoes

April 30, Mr. Elwood and I went over to the South End to kill mosquitoes. There was a barrel of gas oil over there, right near, so we wouldn't have to walk far. We began near Spruce Ridge. I would draw the oil and carry it to Mr. Elwood and he would spray it with a watering can and put it on all the places that had water standing in them. Then we began on the ditches. We came to a place where there were millions of young mosquitoes. We could see them come up and breathe very plainly. When they saw us they all would go down to the bottom. They come up to breathe once every two minutes. It was quite interesting to watch them for awhile and then we put some oil on the places; then came their death struggle. They would try to come up and breathe but they couldn't because the oil formed a thick coating on the water. After they had tried for awhile they gave it up and died. Mosquitoes lay their eggs at night, and deposit them in boat-shaped masses on the surface of the water. The number of eggs in each mass varies from two hundred to four hundred. It takes sixteen hours for them to hatch and nine days to develop. Mosquitoes stay in cellars and under all sorts of shelter during winter. While they are in winter quarters it makes no difference how cold it is as mosquitoes are found abundant even in the arctic region. So through all the ditches the same process was carried on to kill the mosquitoes. After we had this part of the Island done, we went over to the dikes and put oil on all the places, large or small, because a small place may have as many mosquitoes in it as a large one. CHARLES B. BARTLETT.

Alumni

WALTER HERMANN, '79, made us a call recently. Some of the older graduates will remember him as Walter Mahan. He is collector for the Atkinson Furniture Co. and sings tenor in the Newbury St. Episcopal Church, Boston. Walter lives at 40 Banks St., West Somerville.

ALMOND H. DUTTON, '82, is with J. H. Vinal & Co., Boston, hardware dealers. He has been in the same business since his graduation from the School. In 1896 he married, and now has a daughter Dorris, sixteen months old, of whom he is naturally very proud. His home is at 832 Washington St., Dorchester. Almond spoke enthusiastically about his visit to the Island last Thanksgiving. It stirred up his interest. A short time afterward his wife said, "Can't you talk of anything else but the Farm School?" He thinks the graduates, as a whole, pay too little attention to the School and the Alumni Association, and wants to see a heartier spirit of co-operation.

FRED N. FRASIER, '89, for several years after leaving the School, worked for the American Express Company. He is now seedman for W. W. Rawson and Company at 12 Faneuil Hall Square. His home is with his mother, at 9 Day Street, North Cambridge. Fred visited the Island on Thanksgiving Day. He was in the School when Gardner Hall was built, and worked on the foundations and cellar. Fred is a hustler; and anyone that talks with him, for a few moments, knows, that he will succeed in whatever he tries to do.

Painting City Hall

About the first of May the aldermen and I started to paint City Hall. We got the outside all painted, but we didn't have time to paint the inside because the band had to practice marching for Memorial Day. But right after Memorial Day we went to painting it again. The outside is white with brown trimmings; the walls on the inside are buff and the ceiling robin's egg blue with dark red trimmings. The flagstaff is to be wh[illegible].

GEORGE THOMAS.

Planting Onions

The onion piece is first raked and all the largest stones taken out and put into the cart to be taken to the south end dump by the farm boys. After the stones are taken out it is raked again and then is ready for planting. Mr. Mason takes a small bucket of seed and the seed sower over to the piece with him. He then fills the sower and walks up and down the piece pushing it before him. After the seeds are planted the piece is rolled with a small roller.

JOHN J. CONKLIN.

My Work in the Schoolroom

At one o'clock I line up with the house boys to go to the schoolroom to work. I first sweep the floor, then dust the desks. I generally open the windows and empty the waste basket while the dust is settling so it will not get on the desks after being dusted. On Friday my work is different. Instead of dusting the desks I wash them, wash all around the window sills, wash the blackboard ruler and pointer, and the grooves around the blackboard, wash the doors and Miss Winslow's desk. If I am not through by the time the scrubbers are, they help me give out the books. On Friday the lessons are singing, drawing, arithmetic, geography, and usually spelling.

GEORGE E. HICKS.

Giving Out Seeds

One evening Mr. Bradley came up to the gardens with seeds for the boy's gardens. He had with him a chair and a small table to put the seeds on. He sent a boy around to tell all those who wanted seeds to be up there. When we were all up there, he had us line up in front of him while he read off the different kinds of seeds. When he got through we all stood by our gardens while some of the instructors, who were out there, came to see if we were ready for the seeds and to advise us as to what to take. Mr. Bradley would call out one kind of seed and those that wanted that would line up. More boys lined up for asters than for any other seed. All didn't get them because there wasn't enough to go around; so Mr. Bradley said he would get some more. It began to rain before he had time to finish giving them out.

WARREN HOLMES.

Thompson's Island

Beacon

Vol. 4. No. 4. PRINTED AT THE FARM SCHOOL, BOSTON, MASS. August, 1900.

Above is pictured a hay field during the busiest season. The grass is cut early in the morning by the two horse mowing machine; along ditches, banks and in the orchard where the machine cannot go it is done with scythes. As soon as possible the tedder is set to work, shaking and opening it up, that the sun and air may quickly dry it. The hay is not completely dried, as much of the goodness would be lost; but is wilted just enough to crumple easily in the hand. If not too heavy, three to five hours of hot sun with dry air will cure it. The horse rake then gathers it into winrows and two boys bunch it together for loading. By this time the hay carts and a squad of boys with pitch forks and rakes are in the field and are loading the hay. Two on the ground pitch it up to the loader who builds it out square and firm. A fellow with a bull rake follows and collects the scatterings. When loaded the carts drive to the barn where the hay is pitched onto the scaffolds and spread evenly, making neat and secure mows.

H. F. Wardwell.

The New Grove

We have just set out a new grove over on the hillside which projects up from the North End bar. It is a pine grove which consists of fifty-four small Austrian pine trees that are about four or five feet high. Mr. Bradley marked out the grove and put green stakes where he wanted the trees set out; then some of the largest farm boys dug holes at each stake. These measured four feet in diameter and two feet deep. After this was done Mr. Mason and the same boys that dug the holes went to the nursery, dug up the little trees, and carried them over to the place spoken of. We put some good loam in the bottom of the hole, set the tree in so it would sit perfectly upright, and filled the hole in with good loam. We put some poor earth on top, so the grass wouldn't grow around the tree.

FREDERICK F. BURCHSTED.

The Toboggan Chute

A short time ago Mr. Elwood built a toboggan chute for the boys that go in swimming; it runs from the boat-house right down to the water. There is a ladder on one side of the boat-house which the boys go up to get on top. Usually there are two or three boys on one toboggan. When they all get up to the top of the boat-house they get on, some one gives them a push and off they go. When they reach the bottom of the chute they go a little way along the water and then sink. It is great fun.

HAROLD S. TAYLOR.

White-Washing the Fence

Two boys have been white-washing the fence up on the Highland Road. After they had got their overalls and had gone down to the old barn and taken some clear salt water they put some white lime in it and then stirred it. They took two old paint brushes and then went to work white-washing the fence. Before they began they went around and took out all the old fence rails and posts and put new ones in their places. The fence looks as well close to it as from a distance.

CHARLES A. BLATCHFORD.

Picking Apples

Lately the morning farm boys have been picking apples. When we first come from the house to the barn we put on our overalls, get the baskets we use for picking things in and line up. After that Mr. Mason tells us to come to the orchard to the sweet-apple trees. When we get down there we pick up the apples on the ground and put the good ones in one basket and the hen-pecked and spoiled ones in another. When we fill a basket of good apples some boy will take them up to the kitchen and bring back the basket. From three to four bushels are taken up every time. When the spoiled apples are all picked they are taken to the pig pen for the pigs.

GEORGE G. NOREN.

Johnson at Camp

One morning of the last week at camp George Thomas took Johnson, the mule, over to give every one a ride if they cared for it. After a few fellows had ridden I got on to have my ride. The mule went around very well for a while, then all of a sudden he lay down with me on his back. I got off for it was not very comfortable. Then he commenced to roll with the saddle on, but we took it off and let him lie there. The fellows said he was making-off sick to get rid of giving us rides.

THOMAS W. TIERNEY.

My Work in the Washroom

Every morning at inspection at the command "Washroom boy," I go to work. First I pick up the soap and brushes and straighten out the combs and sweep up. After that I shine the brass and scrub out the sinks and tubs. Then I get a cloth and with oil rub the rust from the pumps and legs that hold up the sink. Some mornings I have to clean the three looking-glasses. When this is all done I go out and shine my shoes and report to Mr. Chamberlin. Sometimes I am let go. Then I have some fun.

RALPH O. ANDERSON.

A good conscience is a continual Christmas.

School Classes for the Ensuing Year

First Class

Barr, Clarence W.
Bartlett, Charles B.
Burchsted, Frederick F.
Burke, George F.
Conklin, John J.
Edwards, Charles A.
Hart, George E.
Jorgensen, Charles W.
Laighton, Daniel W.
Lanagan, Alfred
Noren, George G.
Taylor, Charles A.
Thomas, George
Tierney, Thomas W.
Webber, Samuel W.

Second Class

Blatchford, Charles A.
Davis, Edward L.
Hinckley, Howard L.
Hill, Charles
Ladd, Albert H.
Means, Louis E.
Murray, Daniel
Purdy, Arthur I.
Renquist, Axel E.
Robblee, John W.
Russell, Charles W.
Simpson, Frank C.
Spear, Charles F.
Taylor, Harold S.
Thompson, Fred W.
Waycott, Samuel A.

Third Class

Clark, Don C.
Dean, Andrew W.
DeMar, Clarence
Edson, James A.
Flynn, William
Goodnough, Edwin W.
Graves, Leslie W.
Hicks, George E.
Hill, Barney
Holmes, Warren
Holmes, Ralph
Johnson, Elmer A.
May, William B.
McKay, Robert
Norwood, Walter D.
Powers, John J.
Robblee, Joseph E. K.
Rowell, C. Newton
Rowell, Willard H.
Taylor, Edward B.
Thayer, Frederick P.
Tierney, John
Walker, Frederick L.
Witt, Lester H.
Wittig, Carl L.

Fourth Class

Anderson, Ralph O.
Butler, Walter L.
Frueh, William C. J.
Hinckley, Albert W.
Jones, Leslie R.
Leighton, George I.
McKenzie, George A. C.
Miley, Frank S.
O'Conner, Charles H.
Pratt, C. James
Welch, Frank E.

Fifth Class

Burnes, Harold C.
Chase, Harry M.
Clifford, James
Ingalls, Ralph P.
Jorgensen, Ernest N.
Todd, Harry H.
Pratt, Joseph
Probert, Albert
Warner, Charles
Weston, Samuel
Thrasher, Horace P.

Sixth Class

Esau, Weston
Glutt, Jacob
Graves, Charles A.
Keller, Joseph B.
Lake, Harry W.
Maceda, Thomas
Nelson, John F.
O'Conner, William F.

Playing Cricket

Lately we have been playing cricket. When we play we get eight pieces of wood about three inches wide and one inch thick and they are hammered into the ground about six inches apart leaving about a foot uncovered; then a piece of wood is laid on top. This is called a wicket. About twenty-two yards opposite this is a wicket of the same sort. About two feet from the wicket in front of each is a hole four or five inches in diameter. The batsmen stand by the holes. There are two boys at each place. The bowler stands about two feet behind the wicket and the fielders in the field. We use a base ball to play with. When a game begins some one yells out, "I'm batter," "I'm bowler," "I'm first fielder," and so on. The bowler begins the game by throwing the ball to the one behind the opposite wicket. The batsman who stands with his bat in the hole in front of the wicket hits the ball if he can. If he hits it he runs alternately with his partner touching his bat to the opposite hole; if he can run more without getting out he does so. Each time he runs to the opposite hole and back it is counted a run. If he does not hit the ball he must get his bat back into the hole as soon as he can, for the bowler, as soon as the ball reaches him, will try to knock his wicket off before the batter gets his bat back into the hole. If he does knock it off the batter is out. If the ball is caught by one of the fielders or bowlers he is out. If the wicket is knocked off or he is hit with the ball with his bat out of the hole he is out. The one who knocks the wicket off must have the ball in his hands. The batter can not run while his wicket is off. The batters have three outs altogether. If the ball is caught no runs are counted. The ones that get the most runs win the game.

George E. Hart.

Thompson's Island Beacon

Printed Monthly by the Boys of the
FARM SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor.

A PRIVATE HOME-TRAINING SCHOOL
DEPENDANT UPON DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS.

Vol. 4. No. 4. August, 1900.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE, 50 cents per year.

Entered at Post Office at Boston as second class matter.

BOARD OF MANAGERS.

PRESIDENT.
RICHARD M. SALTONSTALL.

VICE-PRESIDENT
EBEN BACON.

TREASURER
ARTHUR ADAMS.

SECRETARY.
TUCKER DALAND.

MANAGERS.
MELVIN O. ADAMS,
ALFRED BOWDITCH,
I. TUCKER BURR, JR.,
CHARLES P. CURTIS, JR.,
CHARLES T. GALLAGHER,
HENRY S. GREW,
JOSHUA B. HOLDEN, JR.,
JOHN HOMANS, 2d, M. D.,
WALTER HUNNEWELL,
FRANCIS SHAW,
THOMAS F. TEMPLE.

CHARLES H. BRADLEY, Superintendent.

It is not uncommon to hear a boy exclaim, "What is the use of learning all these dry facts; they will never be of any use to me; I shall soon forget them." Now that school has commenced it will be well to give some idea of what study and education mean, for the benefit of such boys.

The word EDUCATION comes from Latin words meaning to draw forth, and is ordinarily used to express the process by which the powers and capacities of the mind are developed. It is not intended so much to pour a given amount of facts into the mind, as to help and direct its growth, so that it can act vigorously and intelligently. When you study a problem in arithmetic, it is not that you ever expect to use the same combination of numbers again, but to enable you to solve anything similar that may come up. When you have learned that if one man can make three boxes in one day, in seven days he can make twenty-one, you then have the key to all other like questions. You are not puzzled, if instead of boxes, the man manufactures chairs; and in the same way by substituting miles for boxes, you know how far a ship sails in a fortnight.

It is more the method than the problem that is of advantage but problems teach the methods. They are the rounds of the ladder of education; the stepping stones to reason. And this is a rule general for all branches of learning; it applies just as much to sloyd as to school work. You may never again make a paper cutter or a tool chest, but you have gained the power to use tools; you know how to square a joist or dovetail together two boards; and consequently you are ready for any such work. In short you study to gain the power of applying your learning to practical objects, so that when you come to grapple with the difficulties and problems of life you can successfully overcome them.

H. J. Wardwell.

Notes

July 1. First green peas from the garden.

July 2. Company B went into camp.

July 3. New beets from the garden.
Albert Probert entered the School.

July 4. Independence Day.
Usual program of races, sports, music and fireworks.

First string-beans from the garden.

July 6. Treasurer Mr. Arthur Adams here.

July 7. Graduates Frederick R. Bunten, Charles Duncan and Richard Bell called.

July 8. Almon H. Dutton called.

Company C went into camp.

July 9. One-half a case of eggs received from Mr. A. M. Stone.

July 10. Arthur Wellesley returned to the School.

Frank S. Miley and Albert W. Hinckley entered the School.

July 11. Repairing pumps.

Graduate Albert E. Spencer and family visited us and presented a collection of music.

July 15. Graduate William G. Cummings spent the day here.

It being the last day in camp all the instructors and boys listened to a concert under the trees at Oak Knoll.

July 16. Broke camp at 4.30 A. M.

Summer term of school began.

July 19. First summer squash.

July 20. Phillip Parent spent the day here.

Steamer PILGRIM with barge in tow went to Stetson's for a load of lumber.

July 21. Finished haying.

Harvested oats for feed.

Vice President Mr. Eben Bacon and daughters here.

July 23. Mr. Joseph Aliot gave Mr. Bradley a parrot, a fine talker.

Mr. Joseph F. Scott and Mr. Frederick G. Pettigrove called.

July 24. Painted the wharf.

July 26. Mr. William H. Mitchell and Mr. J. C. Hosmer visited the School.

July 27. Visiting Day. 186 present among them being Manager Mr. Francis Shaw and graduates, Mr. Joseph Partridge and Mr. Frank L. Trainor.

Semi-annual award of Shaw Prizes.

July 30. A party of Cuban teachers with an interpreter spent the day at the School studying our methods.

July 31. Toboggan-shute put in place from the Chilton's boat house into the water.

Finished painting the derrick.

Farm School Bank

Cash on hand July 1st, 1900,	$305.50
Deposited during the month,	55.12
	$360.62
Withdrawn during the month,	18.00
Balance Aug. 1st, 1900,	$342.62

The Shaw Prizes

The semi-annual award of the Shaw Prizes, the Temple Consolation Prizes and Honorable Mention for the half year just ended is given below. The award of these prizes is based upon our grade system of marking. The visiting friends had the pleasure of witnessing the presentation which occurred on the campus directly after their arrival on the last Visiting Day, July 27.

SHAW PRIZES.

1 Frank W. Harris	2 Horace P. Thrasher
3 Lester H. Witt	4 Thomas Brown
5 Samuel F. Butler	6 Samuel Weston
7 Willard H. Rowell	8 Axel E. Renquist
9 Fred F. Burchsted	10 William Austin

TEMPLE CONSOLATION PRIZES.

11 C. Newton Rowell	12 Samuel W. Webber
13 Frederick Hill	14 William I. Ellwood
15 George A. C. McKenzie	

HONORABLE MENTION.

16 Thomas Maceda	17 Arthur I. Purdy
18 George Thomas	19 William C. J. Frueh
20 Walter L. Butler	

Fourth of July Celebration

The programme in detail, with the names of the winners in order, was as follows:

4.12 A. M. FLAG RAISING AND SALUTE

Reveille

6.30 BREAKFAST

7.30 Parade of Horribles

8.00 Distribution of Supplies

9.30 SPORTS AND RACES ON THE CAMPUS

Standing Broad Jump, Bartlett, Thompson, Hart.

Running Broad Jump. Bartlett, Hart.
Putting Shot Bartlett, Austin, Hart.
Three Legged Race. Hart & Austin
Sack Race. Tierney J., Davis, Holmes W., Taylor A.
Special. Spear, DeMar, Clifford.
Crab Race. Thompson, Ellwood, Malm.
Backward Race. Bartlett, Malm, Hart.

DAY FIREWORKS

11.30 DINNER
12.00 SALUTE
2.00 P. M. RACES ON THE BEACH ROAD
Barrel Race. Lundquist, Taylor A., Holmes W.
Wheelbarrow Race. Hill F., Lundquist, Flynn.
100 Yard Dash under 13. Taylor H., Murray, Tierney J.
100 Yard Dash over 13. Bartlett, Hinckley H., Ladd.
Special 100 Yard Dash. Clifford, O'Conner W., Jorgensen E.
Half Mile Race. Ladd, Hill F., Austin.
4.00 AQUATIC SPORTS BY THE LANDING
Miniature Yacht Race. Hill F., Conklin, Simpson.
Swimming Race under 13. Dean, Pratt C. J., Burke.
Swimming Race over 13. Barr J., Hill C., McKay.
Following the Leader. Austin, Hart.
Greased Pole. Austin, Conklin, Purdy.
5 30 SUPPER

ON THE CAMPUS

6.30 Band Concert
7.24 SALUTE AND FLAG LOWERING
8.00 Fire Works
9.00 "Bombardment of Pekin"
10.00 TAPS

The zephyrs of the Summer air
The wavelets of the sea, at play,
The solid substance of the land,
All served our Independence Day.

Graduating Exercises

The day looked forward to most of all by the graduating class is their graduation day. As we wished to have everything pass off well we prepared our exercises with considerable forethought, selecting subjects which we thought would be most interesting. The day came and we assembled in the hall. Mrs. Julia Ward Howe was present and as she entered we all rose and repeated her stirring poem, "The Battle Hymn of The Republic." Our exercises then opened with a selection from the band, followed by the greeting and an outline of art in the New and Old School having as a representative of the Old School, Raphael and of the New, Rosa Bonheur. Next came a historical sketch of South Africa, giving the past history of the country now known as Transvaal. Our thoughts were next brought to bear on the great improvements made by the hand of man during the past century, under the head of "Inventions of the Nineteenth Century." The declamation, "The Knight's Toast", brought out a strong point of loyalty which will not soon be forgotten by those that were present and heard it. Miss Ila M. Niles, a niece of Mr. Bradley's, sang with the accompaniment of the piano played by Mrs. Bradley. Our school photographer, a member of our class, gave in full the origin, growth, process and uses of photography. An oration on the "Duties We Owe Our Country" was then given and if all its points were carried out it would raise the standard of our country far above that of the present. This was followed by the Valedictory. In addressing our class Mrs. Howe spoke from her own experience and what she had observed during her life, that we might profit by it, and closed with words of advice and encouragement. Hon. Richard C. Humphreys was called on to say a few words and responded, touching on his favorite subject, moral character. Mr. Bradley then presented the diplomas for school, sloyd and forging, adding a few stimulating words to each. Before the close, Mrs. Howe recited her own poem giving it as she wished it to be expressed. Our exercises closed with a selection from the band. Among the guests were Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Humphreys, Mr. and Mrs. George F. Lawley, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Willis, Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Eddy, Rev. James Huxtable, Miss Tracy, Miss Irene G. Hersey and Mr. A. A. Cole.

WILLIAM I. ELLWOOD

The Anchor

Many forms of anchors were made by the ancients. Some were merely large stones, tied to the ends of ropes, others crooked pieces of wood, weighted to make them sink in the water; the earlier ones acting mainly as weight, and holding the vessel by their own inertia, instead of hooking into the ground. The first iron anchors are supposed to have been made and used by the Greeks. These had but one hook or fluke, but a second was afterwards added; it had no stock and was on that account ill-suited for insuring a firm grip into the ground. One of their anchors was called "sacred" and was never used unless the vessel was in distress. Ropes were used until quite recent years. Two forms of anchors are now in use. Those of the largest vessels are made without a stock and have the arms bearing the flukes in one piece, hung loosely in the shank. The manufacture of anchors furnished until recent years the most formidable undertaking for the blacksmith but the steam hammer greatly reduced the process.

Covering Books

We change our library books on Wednesday evening and Sunday morning. When the out-side cover gets torn or soiled the book has to be covered again. The library boys take such books into the office and when we, the office boys, get ready to cover them we take them into the reading room. We take off all the old covers first, and tear off the labels on which the number of the book and shelf is and put them inside of the book so the librarian won't have to look the books up in the catalogue. All the library books have the same kind of paper for their covers. When we get them covered we put on the labels and take those books into the schoolroom to be marked and put in the library. Sometimes the books have to be rebound and so they are sent to town.

CHARLES F. SPEAR.

A Clam Bake

The first Saturday afternoon after Miss Strong returned from her vacation she invited the boys that ranked first and second in her three classes last term to go on a clambake with her. We stopped at the barn and got three clam-diggers, Then we went over to the east side of the Island and dug our clams. We did not find many big ones but had to get along with what we had. After we had dug enough clams we built a fire place and tried to make a fire, but it was too windy; so we moved up behind a large pudding stone where we got it to going after awhile and then baked our clams. Not all of us liked clams so we gave them to Miss Strong to take care of, while we ate our biscuit and drank our ginger ale. Each of us had a box of biscuit and two bottles of ginger ale. Some boys gave Mr. Mason who was haying along the bank some of the good things we had. The boys that went were George Noren, George Thomas, Harold Taylor, Daniel Murray, Clarence DeMar and myself.

EDWIN W. GOODNOUGH.

Swimming Live Stock

Every one who comes to the Island and sees our fine herd of cattle probably wonders how we get them here. Our horned cattle are generally brought over in our scow towed by the steamer, but with horses it is different. One of our instructors goes to the city for them and takes them around to Squantum, the point of mainland nearest to our Island. There are only nine feet of water at low tide in the channel which is about one hundred and fifty feet wide. When the tide is low a halter is put on the animal's head and a rope about a hundred feet long is knotted to that. The end of the rope is made fast in the boat: then the boat rows across and pulls the animal to our Island. Sometimes they come all right and again they will not come for a long time. Recently a young heifer made a good deal of trouble. When we began to row she would not start and as she made a pretty good anchor we could not move her, till at last she was scared by throwing stones into the water.

HERBERT E. BALENTINE.

Whether a boy is from farm or city, rich or poor, weak or strong, talented or not, will and work are sure to win. Wishes fail but wills prevail; labor is luck. *Wilbur F. Crafts.*

Alumni

ALBERT E. SPENCER, '86, on leaving the School spent two years in the city with George F. Pease, upholsterer. He was a fine musician, playing the baritone and trombone, and some of his friends induced him to go to Waltham so they could have the benefit of his musical talent with the Waltham Band. He has worked in the Waltham Watch Factory and with the American Watch Tool Co. and has now been seven years with the Newton Machine Co. His work is on repairs and grinding. Albert married a Waltham girl three years ago and has one child, Ruth Marion, twenty-two months old. He now gives all his attention in music to vocal work, singing tenor and filling the position of choir-master in the Beth Eden Baptist church. He and his family spent the day here recently, a visit which was mutually enjoyed.

WILLIAM L. SNOW, '90, is in Canada on his vacation and writes, "This is a beautiful place. It has been quite cool every day. We have had a great deal of rain but it has not kept us from having a good time. We have two sail boats, two row boats and a canoe. We go fishing and have very good luck catching black-bass, perch, pickerel and trout. We are living high on the fish we catch, plenty of fresh eggs, milk, and cream, wild strawberries and honey. I am growing stronger and stouter every day; I have a tremendous appetite and a good rich color. "Galilee" is the name of this place of eight acres which runs out into the lake in the form of a small peninsula. It is one of the most beautiful spots on Lake Memphremagog. The lake is as calm as a mill pond this evening; four hours ago a boat would not have been considered safe the lake was so very rough. The wind comes up very suddenly and seems to die away just as quickly. My cousin and myself commenced to sleep in a tent a few nights ago: it is very comfortable. We have a twelve by twelve wall tent with a fly, and for beds we have two single iron cots on a floor that we made ourselves, so that we are well protected from damp weather. Please remember me to Mrs. Bradley and the boys. Please send the July and August copies of the BEACON to my address here; if I did not receive them it would be a great disappointment to me."

Fellow Graduates.

I wish to write a few lines for the "Beacon," in the interest of the Alumni Association. Now while I know interest seems to be lacking, I do not know just how to better it. But this much for granted: it does seem to me, that the trouble, if any, is with us, the older boys. I could not help noticing the absence of older boys at the Alumni Dinner, Thanksgiving Day, at the School. Out of the eighty boys I think were there, there were only two I knew. Then again at the Whist Party given by the Association, there was not one that was a boy at the School when I was there. I feel reasonably sure that if the boys who have not visited the School of late years will do so and see the changes that have been made and all the improvements in the School they will be just as agreably surprised as I was and will, I feel sure, be just as enthusiastic. I think I know why most of the older boys lack interest. They only remember the School as it was when they were there, and are contented to let it go at that. I am sure the Association's advantages are the same to us as to the boys who were fortunate enough to be at the School when it was formed. I think, too, that it would encourage the boys now in the School to see the graduates appreciative of their school connection. Probably I have as little time to devote to this as any average boy, as I live where I have to leave home at six o'clock in the morning, and do not get home again till seven at night, but if any boy seeing this can think of any way to boom the Alumni and wishes to correspond with me, such time as I can give to it at noontime and occasionally evenings, is gladly at his service. Now boys, all up for the Alumni. Interest yourself and interest others and never miss a chance to let people know you are a Farm School Boy.

A. H. Dutton,
832 Washington St.,
New Dorchester, Mass.

Thompson's Island

Beacon

Vol. 4. No. 5. Printed at the Farm School, Boston, Mass. September, 1900.

On July 30, we were visited by four of the Cuban Teachers who were studying at Harvard. They were the most advanced of their countrymen and leaders at home as well as here; they were the ones that took the prominent parts in and managed the exercises that closed their summer's study. They were, in the order in which they sit in the picture, beginning at the right, Senors Laureano Gil Galceran, Director of Schools, Matanzas; Ed. Martinez Portuondo, Editor of the "Cuba Libre" of Santiago; Senorita Valentina Pujals Quesada, a teacher in Santiago; and Senor Leopoldo Ruiz Tamayo, from the same city, Superintendent of the Asylum for Orphans of Cuban Soldiers, and President of the Teachers' Association of the Province of Santiago de Cuba. Sitting at the left is Rev. H. R. Moseley who was with them as interpreter.

The morning was spent in an inspection of the barns and farm. Of special interest to the men were the cattle; the orchards of apples and pears, which do not grow in Cuba; the raising of poultry (their main meat supply); the vegetables

that were new to them; and the methods of cultivation on the farm, particularly the straight rows of corn and vegetables which struck them as unusual.

After dinner a tour was made of the shops where classes in sloyd and blacksmithing were in session; the printing office; the boys' flower gardens; and Cottage Row. After seeing the buildings the party entered the schoolroom and listened awhile to the recitations. It was the first time they had seen an American school in session, and as all were educators, they were most attentive. It was a practical illustration of what they had come to this country to learn,—the manner and system of our schools. Senor Tamayo addressed the boys expressing very eloquently his pleasure in being at the School. He said he was impressed with the chance they had to study not only the methods of teaching and manual training, but above all, its practical application in the everyday work of the house and farm. It was all novel and he said he considered the visit the most useful one they had taken, and regretted that a larger number had not come. He wished it possible that others of the teachers could also see the School. (Later two large parties came to the Island, selected by Senors Gil and Tamayo at the request of Mr. Frye.)

During the whole time they were here their earnestness and seriousness were noticeable. They examined everything and if anything new was seen, they made inquiries about it, even to the details. They took notes of everything, for their visit was not one of mere curiosity; they had come here with the purpose of learning anything that would be of value to Cuba, new ideas, and ways of doing things better than those now in use. If this visit was of value to them, it was certainly a great stimulus to the School. Their enthusiasm was contagious because it was sincere. Having experienced the lack of them, they could estimate at the true value what advantages are here possessed. Their visit was unique in the history of the School, and they and their appreciation will be long remembered.

H. J. Wardwell.

Digging Weeds

Tuesday, August 21, the afternoon farm boys went over to the grass piece that is between the farm-house road and the corn field. We scattered around and began digging out the plantain and other weeds that grew up above the grass. They were thick and the field looked very bad. In the meantime a boy had gone to the old barn and had brought over the red hand-cart into which we put the weeds. When it was full two boys pushed it to the pig pens and divided the weeds among the pigs. There were several cart loads.

Charles N. Rowell.

Getting in Coal

On August third, the barge came with our year's supply of coal. It was moored to the south side of the old wharf. A platform was raised and secured, reaching from the middle of the barge over the wharf, so that a team could back in under to receive the coal, which was hoisted from the hold in buckets, emptied into a small cart, and wheeled along to the end of the platform. All this was done by the crew of the barge. The two-horse team and two one-horse carts, one of which was driven by a boy, received the coal and took it around to the various places, the house, barn and shop cellars, and the shed behind the boat house, where it was dumped into the bins and shoveled back so that the openings should not be clogged. This was done by boys, eleven of them, distributed at different places. I was at the boat-house shed. It took nearly two days to get in all the coal.

Albert H. Ladd.

An Evening on the Lawn

One evening, Mr. Shaw was here and all the boys went out on the front lawn. The band played quite a lot of pieces, and the boys that were not in the band played around on the lawn. Some of the boys were playing hide and seek, some were trying to dance, some were playing tag, some were wrestling and some small boys were riding on large boys' shoulders. After the band had stopped playing we went up to bed. We got into bed about half past nine.

Albert W. Hinckley.

The New Shower-Bath

Instead of tubs we have now a shower-bath. Twenty-five boys go down to the wash-room at a time, each one getting a brush and a piece of soap as he comes down, then they fall in line one after another and begin washing themselves. After a boy has finished washing his neck and ears he scrubs the back of the fellow in front of him, then he finishes bathing himself and falls in the inspection line, that is the line where we are looked over to see if we are clean. After that we wipe ourselves and pass up stairs and dress. The plumber who came from Boston began putting the pipes up about two weeks ago and finished last Saturday, August twenty-fifth. HAROLD S. TAYLOR.

Ploughing

A few days ago I helped to break up a piece of land. By this I mean turning the turf up and over with a plough, so the grass and weeds will rot and the ground be ready for cultivation next year. I did more actual ploughing than I have done in any other field. I made twenty or thirty good straight furrows. When one first sees ploughing being done, he thinks it quite hard; and so it is when you first try it. But after you get used to it and acquire the knack of handling the plough, it is easier than driving. When I am ploughing and come to a corner I have to drive the horse out straight and then turn him in, but a good plough-man can turn the corners without stopping. ALFRED LANAGAN.

Asphalting

Awhile ago Mr. Bradley had the floor in the laundry and in the washroom repaired. They are of asphalt and were worn down in places. We marked out with a blue line the places which were to be fixed, and with a cold-chisel and a small sledge-hammer, dug out the old asphalt in front of the long sink in the wash-room, also where the bath tubs used to be, and in front of the tubs in the laundry. In some places the floor was worn down to a quarter of an inch. The asphalt that we took out was chiseled to get out the small stones and dirt. Then we took it to the large pot which was outside, on the gravel near the garden, and mixed it in with the new asphalt. A hot fire was kept going under the pot. Beside the asphalt the mixture contained "trinidad," a hard and oily substance that comes from the Island of Trinidad, also coarse sand and some tiny white stones, called "grit." The last makes the mixture hard when it is cold. We carried the hot asphalt to where the man was working and dumped it on the floor. He filled up the hole with it and smoothed it off with a block of whitewood with a handle. Next he scattered on a little white sand or marble dust and with the smoother rubbed it in so as to get out all the lumps. We put boards around to keep it from being stepped on while it was hardening.

CHARLES A. BLATCHFORD.

Bows and Arrows

Lately the boys have been making bows and arrows. We get the wood for them at the lumber yard, It is necessary to get permission. There are too many to go at one time, so some go down in the morning and some in the afternoon. A piece of oak is the best for bows, but it is hard to whittle. Pine is good for arrows. We carry the pieces we select up to the shed and there whittle it into the right shape. John Robblee gave me his bow and arrows. Sometimes the arrows break; then you have to make others. I have lost my arrows as fast as I make them but I have not broken my bow yet. We usually go to the other side of the hedge to shoot, because it is safer. Some of the arrows go out of sight and some go over the flag-staff. If it does not go the first time we try again.

HORACE P. THRASHER.

Diving

One of the sports in swimming is diving off the wharf and float. Some of the boys dive pretty well and others strangely. One boy for instance dives sideways. A few other boys try to dive the right way but instead of going down head first they land on their stomachs, which makes them feel uneasy for a while. Some boys open their eyes under water and it looks very pretty. When a fellow wants to pick up something under water he can see the thing he wants almost twice as large as it really is and then he can pick it up. JAMES A. EDSON.

Thompson's Island Beacon

Printed Monthly by the Boys of the
FARM SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor.

A PRIVATE HOME-TRAINING SCHOOL
DEPENDANT UPON DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS.

Vol. 4. No. 5. September, 1900.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE, 50 cents per year.

Entered at Post Office at Boston as second class matter.

BOARD OF MANAGERS.

PRESIDENT.
RICHARD M. SALTONSTALL.

VICE-PRESIDENT
EBEN BACON.

TREASURER
ARTHUR ADAMS.

SECRETARY.
TUCKER DALAND.

MANAGERS.
MELVIN O. ADAMS,
ALFRED BOWDITCH,
I. TUCKER BURR, JR.,
CHARLES P. CURTIS, JR.,
CHARLES T. GALLAGHER,
HENRY S. GREW,
JOSHUA B. HOLDEN, JR.,
JOHN HOMANS, 2d, M. D.,
WALTER HUNNEWELL,
FRANCIS SHAW,
THOMAS F. TEMPLE.

CHARLES H. BRADLEY, Superintendent.

The chief desire of a healthy boy is play. One is almost convinced, on contrasting the abundance of enthusiasm displayed during a lively game, with the listless half-hearted way in which the same boys habitually go about any duty, that sports comprise all that is really worth while doing. This is well, for, while sports and games are not everything, they contain much for the boy's good. Their value to boys is three-fold; first, recreation, second, exercise and physical development, and third, the formation of certain useful habits, which after a time become almost instinctive. For this last reason they are important. Character is moulded on the play-ground, and the traits the fellow displays in play are just the ones that are used to test a man. And in this respect there is as much benefit derived from properly conducted sports as from precept; because the method of instruction is more effective. If a fellow does not play right, whether from ignorance or indifference, his companions will soon remind him of what he should do and how he should do it; and his lesson will be forcible and not at all likely to be pleasant. In addition to the gaining and keeping the respect of the lookers-on, there is another reason, the desire of winning, which is inborn in all, and often is the most powerful incentive. What then are these important and indispensible attributes? They are fairness, self-control and the ability to withstand hard knocks; also system, without which little is ever accomplished. One not only has to grasp the opportunites that are at hand, but also must look ahead and with a definite plan prepare for what is to come. In foot-ball the team that wins is ready to meet attack from any direction, be it through the center or around the end.

Nothing will take the place of confidence in one's own ability. For instance, there is no one that can not learn to swim, yet probably none take naturally to the water. It takes many trials to convince one's-self that a few strokes will enable one to keep on top. That lesson learned, the next will be easier. Confidence is a most useful habit; for the attitude of one's mind and the habitual condition of one's thoughts have much to do with success. Perfect the control of the will and you will not

shrink with timidity from a new undertaking.

Can you govern yourself in play? If you can not you are not ready for life's work. The fellow that in the critical period of a game, when all depends on him, loses his head is not the one that will in years become a leader. There are times when coolness and a thorough grasp of one's faculties are indispensable, without which ruin and failure will come. He is not ready for leadership who can not control himself.

As everywhere else, the fellow who is in the game is better than the one who stands idly by the side lines and merely criticises what he is unable to do. It is not the one who does nothing but find fault or is constantly complaining, that ever helps better affairs. The mere talker has little lasting influence. All great works have been brought about through deeds. So do not take upon yourself to talk much until at least you have earned the right by doing much. It is the one who goes out into the hurly-burly of actual affairs and strives on equal terms with his fellowmen, that accomplishes something and it is only such a one who gains the foremost place. Some stand aside from weakness. Let them remember that the use of muscle or mind will make each stronger. A good quality is a habit just as much as a bad one. While forming habits, it is just as easy for you to form good ones. Every good habit formed and fixed by early training, is just so much power stored away, which can be brought forth and applied at any moment. And remember, whatever you do, that either good or bad actions will have a corresponding influence over your fellows. Therefore strive lawfully in the the spirit of fairness; and with every endeavor try to win the game. Then you will find that you bring to your work quickened faculties and a clearer brain; and above all you will have gained sturdiness and manliness.

H. J. Wardwell.

Notes

Aug. 1. Island Pleasure Association gave a concert in the evening.

Aug. 2. First green corn from the garden.

Blacksmith shoeing horses all around.

Aug. 6. Concert on the lawn in the evening.

Manager Mr. Francis Shaw spent the night at the School.

Graduate Chester O. Sanborn spent the night here.

The life-boat David Sears towed around to Lawley's for repairs.

First ripe tomatoes from the garden.

Aug. 7. Graduate John M. Scott spent the day here.

Annual testing of the herd of cattle showed all to be free from tuberculosis.

Aug. 8. A delegation of eighty Cuban teachers visted the School. President Mr. R. M. Saltonstall, Treasurer Mr. Arthur Adams and Manager Mr. Francis Shaw accompanied them.

Charles McKay came for a visit.

Aug. 10. Annual supply of coal arrived.

Herbert A. Pulson came for a few days visit.

Aug. 11. Carl Steinbrick visited the School.

A leak discovered in the main water pipe which was soon repaired by the City Water Dept.

Aug. 13. Second delegation of Cuban teachers came.

Finished unloading the coal.

Graduate John P. Ackers visited the School.

Aug. 14. Several of the instructors attended the concert which the Cuban teachers tendered their American benefactors in Sanders' Theatre, Cambridge.

Aug. 15. Began work on the shower bath.

Aug. 18. Graduate Leo T. Decis called.

Aug. 20. First lima beans and Crosby corn from garden.

Mr. Stephen D. Fessenden, Statistical Expert of the U. S. Department of Labor and

Mr. Howard H Cook, chief clerk from the City Statistician's office visited the School.

Aug. 21. Interior of shop painted.

Aug. 22. Four subscriptions to the Penny Magazine received from Miss J. J. Oakes of Roxbury.

Aug. 23. Mr. Joseph H. Chadwick and a party from Hotel Tudor, Nahant, visited the School.

Aug. 24. Visiting Day. 185 present. Manager Mr. I. Tucker Burr, Mrs. Burr and son were here, also Miss Granville, grand-daughter of a former manager, J. D. Williams; and graduates Walter Hermann, Clarence W. Loud, Richard N. Maxwell and Charles A. Smith.

Aug. 25. Finished the shower bath.

Aug. 27. Row boat BREWSTER overhauled.

Began cutting salt hay on the marsh.

Boys took their first shower baths which were pronounced a decided improvement.

Aug. 28. Frank P. Wilcox spent the night here. He left on the 30th for Las Vegas, New Mexico, where he has a position.

We are indebted to Thomas G. Stevenson Post 26, G. A. R. of Roxbury for a generous contribution toward fireworks used on July 4th.

Mrs. Kate A. Miley recently showed her interest in us by sending six new subscriptions to the BEACON, a very nice thing for friends of the boys to do.

Last Visiting Day, Season of 1900

A Steamer of the Nantasket Beach Steamboat Company will leave Rowe's Wharf for the Island on Wednesday, Sept. 26, 1900, at 10.20 A. M.

Farm School Bank

Cash on hand Aug. 1st, 1900,	$342.62
Deposited during the month,	27.67
	$370.29
Withdrawn during the month,	64.97
Balance Sept. 1st, 1900,	$305.32

Scrubbing in the Schoolroom

At ten minutes of one Fridays when the bell rings, the boys that take care of the first schoolroom come up and get their scrub things, brushes, pads to kneel on, pails, cloths and soap. These are kept in a cupboard in the entry between the upper playroom and the schoolroom. There are five that scrub and we divide up the work so that each has one strip and a half, about fifty feet long and four feet wide. The water is changed often. Once a month we put on a disinfectant wash. We move the chairs, tables and piano into one corner; when that part is washed they are put back. As soon as the room is all done, the boys rinse out the pails and scrub brushes, put all the cloths in the pails and return them to the cupboards. Usually the boy that is through last has to wash out the cloths. EDWARD L. DAVIS.

Clearing off the Tables

There are two other boys beside myself that do the clearing off of the tables in the boys' dining room. After breakfast when the last bell strikes, we put on aprons and collect the spoons and put them all in a bowl. The bowls are also collected and put in piles of six until the boy at the sink gets the water ready to wash them in; then we put them in the sink with the spoons and bread plates. The extra food is carried out to the kitchen. The dirty pitchers are placed on the long table to be washed. We get clean plates and put the salt cellars and napkins on them; then we take a cloth and brush the crumbs off the tables into a bread plate. After that is done we brush out the chairs with the table-brush and sweep. We generally hustle to see who gets done with his sweeping first, because there are only two pans to use in washing tables. The others are used to rinse the dishes in. CHARLES A. TAYLOR.

Shining Tools

Among the different jobs in the shop is cleaning tools. Every little while the tools get covered with rust and dirt and so this week, as I have no other work, when the shoes which I have to repair are finished, I clean the saws, squares, gouges and planes. The way I clean them is to take a piece of emery cloth fastened on a block and rub them until I get most of the rust off; then I rub vaseline on with a piece of cloth. This is to keep rust from coming on them. LOUIS E. MEANS.

Speed of Torpedo Boat Destroyers

The British torpedo boat destroyer "Niper" heads the list with forty-three miles an hour or thirty-seven and one half knots. This new boat is fitted with a turbine engine; which, roughly speaking, is an engine built like a water wheel with steam expanding against its floats or paddles. This type of engine cannot be reversed and requires a large amount of fuel to run it. Japan has one intended to make thirty-three knots; France has a few designed to make thirty knots an hour; Germany, twenty and one half; Russia has a few torpedo boats of twenty-nine and seven-tenths knots and the United States Navy will soon have many thirty knotters.

My Work in the Dining Room

Before breakfast I slice bread with the cutter while Archie Taylor stands by to see that it does not fall on the floor. After we have it all cut, I clean the table and cutter while Archie brushes the floor. After breakfast I wash and wipe the dishes while the other boys clean the tables. When my dishes are done I find out what dinner consists of and get out the dishes needed. Then I either wash windows or shine brass. Sometimes I have to scrub the boys' aprons and the roller towels.

C. James Pratt.

Cow Boys

Albert Hinckley and I are morning cow boys. At quarter past seven we let the cows out of the barn and drive them to the pasture at the South End. As soon as we get there one of us goes to the further end and the other stays by Spruce Ridge. We watch the cows that they do not get out, or eat the marsh grass which makes the milk taste badly. In the mean-time we pull up weeds and clear the pasture of stones which we pile on the dike. The large stones are rolled into piles so that the team can get them. A boy is sent from the barn to tell us when it is time to drive up. Then I drive them out. Albert stands by Spruce Ridge and does not let any cows get in there. They go into the cow-yard and we close the door.

Frank E. Welch.

Giving Out Prizes

Last Visiting Day before we were dismissed from line, Mr. Bradley stepped out in front and after speaking a little about them, gave out the Conduct Prizes. The Shaw Prizes, ten of them consisting of money, were given out first and then the Temple Consolation Prizes, which were five books. I took the last one and was very glad to get it. Then five boys' names were called off for Honorable Mention. Then the boys were dismissed. I ran and found my friends; I was glad that my friends saw me take a prize.

George. A. C. McKenzie.

Pick-Ups

In the morning I am "pick-up" around the buildings. Some boys are chosen to do around the house and gardens, some to pick up around the playgrounds. The rakers gather the leaves into piles and then we put them into our boxes. If the boys have no piles raked, we pick up the leaves and rubbish. We go to work at half past seven and are through about half past eight.

Charles W. Watson.

The Parrot

We recently received an addition to our collection of pets, a parrot, from Mr. Aliot. Its color is gray but it has a bright red tail; and the claws and beak are black. At first it did not talk much, but now, being used to its surroundings, it talks and whistles freely even with people around. He is a good talker and can also whistle. What he says most is "Jack", his name, "Rubber neck", "Hullo" and "Goodby", "Scratch my neck", "Well", and "All right". He can whistle the scale and snatches of tunes. Every morning at about half past seven I clean his cage. In the bottom there is a pan which slides out so that it can easily be cleaned. I wash it and sprinkle it with fresh sand. After it is put back I feed him. He eats mixed seeds and a cracker with red-pepper. A dish of water is fastened into the cage. On warm, pleasant days he is put out in the grove. At three o'clock in the afternoon I bring him in again. At night a black cloth is put over the cage so that he will go to sleep.

John Tierney.

Alumni

Charles A. Smith, '69, upon leaving the School worked at farming for three years. In 1885 he took up electricity in the employ of the Thompson and Houston Company, and travelled much through the West and South setting up and starting new plants. Ten years ago he entered and is now with the Cambridge Electric Light Co., as night electrician. In 1880 he married and has two daughters. His home is at 362 Putnam Ave., Cambridge.

George Thompson (Martin) '93, recently made his first visit to the School since he left it to go to his mother. They have lived most of the time since then at Hastings-on-Hudson, N. Y. where George has been in school until his recent graduation. He stood well in school taking prizes the last three years for the highest general average in scholarship; his mark was ninety-five one term. Since January he has been in the office of the Board of Foreign Missions in New York and next winter he plans to enter a business college. He has already taken part of a course in the Kimball system of shorthand. He inquired for several of the friends he left here and will probably visit some them before he returns to his home.

John A. Buttrick, '95, attended the Oberlin Telegraph School, at Oberlin, Ohio. He is now at Blackstone, Mass. The following letter tells the story.

"Will write and let you know how I have been getting along since I was last at the School, in 1899. Was promoted to day job here on July 6, 1899, which I have held ever since, being titled Western Union Manager and Assistant Ticket Clerk. Since I have become manager the company has put thirty more wires in here and that makes thirty-six in all now and making this a test office between Boston and New York and Providence and Putnam. It makes quite a job compared with formerly. Among these wires I have many stock wires from the firm of Howard Crosby & Co., New York, Continental wires, quad and common message wires that make quite an assortment to study on compared with other offices along the road and other operators would be glad of the chance to use them instead of pushing along with only three or four wires which is the usual number in local offices. During the past year have purchased a Remington No. 7 type-writer to use in connection with my work which makes it much easier as I take the messages directly off the wires on the "Mill;" that's what we call it.

There are others who would like to do this but don't want to invest $100 and I enjoy the distinction of being the only operator on the Worcester and Midland Division of this road that can use the mill to advantage although there are two others that I know of that are trying hard to do so. It all comes from practice and that I obtained from the through wires to New York which go steady all day, and have sat for hours copying other's business when spare time would permit. Of course in the main offices the use of the mill is required and that is what I am working for or in a stock-broker's office if I get advanced enough to think myself capable."

This is good work and all are glad of his success. We wonder if John finds time to keep up practice on the cornet which he played at the School.

Mr. Lewis H. Decker, a former teacher of the School, with his family, visited us on July 27, the first time for twenty-five years. Mr. Decker came to the Island as teacher, August 15, 1873, from Newton. His duties included much more than the regular instruction. This was confining and wearing and his strength was not able to stand the strain; on October 24, 1874, he went away to recuperate. A number of years ago he went to Colorado and engaged in the grocery business at Denver. Of late years he was manager of the Denver Branch Office of the Moneyweight Scale Co. Writing to Mr. Bradley, he says, "having had unusual opportunities for observation in different parts of our land and with a fair appreciation of what a boy needs, I unhesitatingly say that I doubt if another institution can be found in this country where all the conditions are so favorable, as at the Farm School, for the care and training and practical preparation for his life work."

Thompson's Island

Beacon

Vol. 4. No. 6. PRINTED AT THE FARM SCHOOL, BOSTON, MASS. October, 1900.

Lighthouses

Travel by water, especially along the coast would be hazardous were it not for the system of lights, erected and maintained by the maritime nations of the world. When we compare the powerful modern light with the ancient beacon, whose feeble glow was incapable of penetrating the fog or resisting severe weather we can easily comprehend why loss of life at sea and the dread of ocean travel has been so greatly lessened during the century past.

Almost every material that affords light has been used at some time or other to warn mariners of the dangers of the sea. More than one hundred years ago we find that oakum and pitch was burned in the beacon at Point Allerton, Mass., but the smoke that rose from these combustible materials must have been sufficient to obscure the light when the wind was in the wrong direction; and the expense of maintaining a beacon of this description must have been large. About 1812 this country began the use of sperm oil, but the Light House Board, dissatisfied with its expense, after many experiments with other oils, adopted petrolium, which is still used, with improved lamps, in the majority of lighthouses: gas and electricity are employed when it is most convenient.

Of course the reflection of the light is very important and many devices were tried with various effects. At first the intensity of light depended mainly upon a concave metallic reflector placed behind the flame. In 1852 this was replaced by the Frisnel Lenticular Apparatus. The flame is encircled by lenses of various shapes which prevent the rays from scattering and throw them out in one straight line accross the sea. Sometimes lenses are made to revolve by clockwork, and this causes the parallel rays to be thrown out at fixed intervals. In this manner when approaching a lighthouse the pilot is able to know which one it is by the number of flashes in a given time. Colored glass is also used to distinguish one light from another.

Boston Light, situated near the entrance to the harbor, is the oldest lighthouse in the United States, erected 1716; while Minots Ledge light off Cohasset, is one of the best examples of engineering skill. The supporting rock rises but three and one half feet above low water, and three summers were spent in preparing the foundation alone, in addition to which over five years were required to erect the tower.

There is a class of lights situated on the head of long piers built out into lakes and sounds, called eight-day burners. Oil is fed into the lamp automatically, the amount being regulated so nicely that just enough is supplied. On the coast of North Carolina ten lights are furnished by a system of compressed gas supplied from tanks, each of which contains enough to last for ten days. On the shore are the gas works exclusively for these lights.

As regards the life and duties of lighthouse keepers one would naturally suppose that Uncle Sam would have some difficulty in securing men for what is generally considered a dangerous, lonesome and responsible position. But whenever a vacancy occurs we find a long list of applicants no matter where the opening may be. None but sober and worthy men are employed, for often the responsibility is as great as that of a railroad engineer or a ship's captain. In some instances women are in charge of lights either as keepers or assistants, but of course this

is only in a few secluded and less important places as the work is quite the opposite of light.

FRANK G. BRYANT '94.

Getting Weeds

One day there was not any school, because Mr. Bradley had most of the boys go to the farm to work. He divided the boys into companies for work. I was in the lot that went to the potato field and got two hay carts of tools and weeds. We tried to see if we could take a pile of weeds in four parts. Each fellow except the one who was on the cart took a part, and the weeds were about twice as heavy as hay because there is a lot of dirt on them and there is not on the hay.

WALTER L. BUTLER.

Shelling Corn

On rainy days when the weather is not suitable for out-door work, Mr. Mason picks out different boys for different jobs. Some saw wood and others clean up the barns or shell corn, etc. For shelling corn three boys are needed. We get the machine in position and get a couple of baskets and barrels. Then we are ready to start off. We begin with the largest fellow to grind and the next largest takes the ears of corn from a basket and puts it in the mouth of the machine. The corn that is shelled and the cobs come down the spout and fall into a basket and the fellow at the spout takes the cobs from the basket and puts them in another basket. When that is full he throws it into a bin. When the feeder's corn is gone he jumps up in the bin after more. When we have a bushel of shelled corn we put it into barrels.

RALPH O. ANDERSON.

School's Aster Beds

Every year there are more gardens than are needed by the boys for their own. All that are left are called the School's gardens When the gardens are laid out for the School, there are sure to be from two to four aster beds. The flowers are used in the dining-room and in the other rooms of the building. There are three aster beds this year in with the other gardens which make them all look pretty. They are of three shapes; there is a long curved one, a flat-iron shaped one, and a square one. The colors of the asters are pink, white, purple and yellowish-white. The asters first start from a seed and when they pop above the earth they look like a weed and perhaps some of them are pulled up. When they are in full growth, they are the prettiest. The asters show off the best of any of the flowers in the gardens, I think. There are a good many other pretty flowers also, but I like asters the best.

LESLIE W. GRAVES.

Cultivating

One day I lead Dolly, the horse, for Ernest Curley who culitvated. The cultivator is a machine not quite so large as a plough and instead of having one large point and a small one, it has five small curved ones and a small wheel in front of these. It has two handles about three feet long. There is a regulater for the wheel and knives, so that the cultivator will take a wider or a narrower strip. We first cultivated the strawberry piece, the rhubarb, the string beans, and the asparagus. When we had finished these, we went to the east side of the Island where we did the rest of the beans and some corn.

DON C. CLARK.

Water-Curiosities

Joe Rogers, the lobster man, found some curious sea animals around his lobster traps and brought them over to our wharf and gave them to the boys. They carried them up to the house and gave them to Miss Winslow, my teacher. One of them was a sea urchin, another was a skate fish's egg and the other was a scallop clam. The sea urchin is in a round shell full of little holes. There are a lot of little things like briers sticking out of these holes and he can move them in different directions. The skate fish's egg is about two inches long with long things like feelers at both ends of it. At one end the feelers curve so that when it is laid, it can cling on to the sea-weed. Its color is black. The scallop clam is in a big shell. The clam opens and shuts by a hinge on the back of the shell. It has a long row of black dots on the upper and lower parts extending to the hinge behind. They look like little teeth.

FRANK S. MILEY.

The Pigeons

In our hen house up-stairs we have a pigeon loft which holds now about fifty pigeons. They are all carriers. Sometimes stray ones come but they do not stay any more than a day or so; then they fly away. The oldest pigeons have numbers stamped on thin pieces of copper fastened on their legs. When a pair of pigeons mate they most always stay so till one dies. They usually hatch in the same nesting places. In the loft is a row of eight nest boxes, three feet from the floor. Some pigeons build their nests in the corners, and others in kegs sawed off about four inches from the bottom. After the pair has built a nest, the female lays two eggs. It takes eighteen days for the eggs to hatch. The young stay in the nest two days after they are hatched. During the first week the parents feed the squabs on food that they have eaten and partly digested. They grow faster than any other birds we have. Before the young ones are old enough to take care of themselves, the old ones lay two more eggs. When one pigeon goes into another's nest they fight and break the eggs; so they have to make their nests over again. I put clean sawdust on the floor every day and some water in the bottom of a tub for them to bathe in. Over the holes where they come in is a wire to let down so they can get in but not go out again. When we want to catch any pigeons, we put the wires down and leave them till most of the pigeons are in. Then we go in and pick out the ones to be taken. On a rainy day when the pigeons are all in, they make a very loud noise cooing, and feeding the young ones.

EDWARD B. TAYLOR.

Plumbing in the Wash Room

When the plumber came to change the tubs to the shower bath, I was selected as one of his helpers. After we had commenced work I helped to get the brass pipe into shape, so that it could be put upon the ceiling. The two-inch pipe had to be cut off and threaded, then joined together by elbows and T's. To thread a pipe there is a diestock and dies with which to do it. The die is a piece of steel about four inches long, four inches wide and about an inch thick. It is made to fit the die-stock, in which there is a cup and a cap which hold the die in its place. There are threads on the inside of the die which cut threads on the outside of the pipe. Another of the things we had to do was to cut pipe. We had a cutter which had on the bottom piece two steel wheels with sharp edges, and one wheel on the top piece. In measuring the length of the pipe ready for cutting, an allowance was made for the threading. When a pipe had to be bent, a plug of waste or paper was put in both ends after the pipe had been filled with sand. The sand was to keep it from kinking. If the pipe was long, it was put in the vise and the plumber's furnace was held under it by one of his helpers. When the pipe became hot it was bent into the required shape. Sometimes the pipes were not filled with sand as it was not necessary. To make the clamps, we took some brass clamping and straightened it out and polished it with sand-paper. It was bent around a pipe of the size wanted. The corners were clipped off with shears and holes were bored for the screws; then the clamps were ready to be put up on the ceiling. The lead pipe was changed for brass pipe in the wash-room, in the closet and also leading from the pantry out to the wash-room.

FREDERICK L. WALKER.

Gathering Seaweed

Whenever seaweed comes onto the beach, the morning wharfinger gets a wheelbarrow and dung-fork and gathers it in piles. If any good lumber comes in amongst the seaweed we put it in the good lumber pile just south of the old barn. Such things as large logs are carried by the two-horse team. When we gather seaweed, if we want to burn it, we spread it out on the beach so that it will dry and then put it in a pile. Then more is gathered and put in the same place to dry. If we don't care to burn it we just put it in a pile and have it drawn off to the south end where it is spread on the marsh. When the high tide comes it brings more seaweed again.

JOHN J. POWERS.

Thompson's Island Beacon

Printed Monthly by the Boys of the
FARM SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor.

A PRIVATE HOME-TRAINING SCHOOL
DEPENDENT UPON DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS

Vol. 4. No. 6. October, 1900.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE 50 cents per year

Entered at the Post Office at Boston as second class matter.

BOARD OF MANAGERS.

PRESIDENT.
RICHARD M. SALTONSTALL.

VICE-PRESIDENT.
EBEN BACON.

TREASURER.
ARTHUR ADAMS.

SECRETARY.
TUCKER DALAND.

MANAGERS.
MELVIN O. ADAMS,
ALFRED BOWDITCH,
I. TUCKER BURR, JR.,
CHARLES P. CURTIS, JR.,
CHARLES T. GALLAGHER,
HENRY S. GREW,
JOSHUA B. HOLDEN, JR.,
JOHN HOMANS, 2d, M. D.,
WALTER HUNNEWELL,
FRANCIS SHAW,
THOMAS F. TEMPLE.

CHARLES H. BRADLEY, Superintendent.

We are in the midst of the harvest season, and consequently there has been especial activity in all branches of farm work. Almost all the crops have ripened and some are already harvested. The potatoes are all stored away in their bins. But few of the stooks of corn yet stand in the fields; the rest has been carted to the barn, where it is husked as time permits. The ears fill the bins of the corn barn and the stalks are piled on the scaffolds. The other vegetables will soon follow. This is not a time for leisure, but one of diligence and industry. Everything must be taken care of as soon as it is ready. The crops follow one another in rapid succession and demand much care. Harvesting means hard work but the labor is not grudged, for it is the reward of our year. We are reaping the fruits of our toil. From the early spring, just as soon as the snow was off the ground, cultivation has been going on, first breaking the ground, then planting the seed, cultivating, weeding, and hoeing one after the other. And now we are being recompensed. All is the result of the work that we have expended. Nothing responds more surely to care bestowed on it than crops, and it shows just as surely the lack of care. If the potatoes have not received sufficient attention, the hills will be found to be thin; but if corn or any crop is well taken care of, it becomes thicker and the ears grow heavier and are more numerous. Industry is as essential to success in agriculture as in anything else, and as in anything else, with it, success is reasonably certain.

Foresight is required in great measure, for it is impossible after the crop is half grown to change it to something else. One has to look ahead from the beginning of the year to the end. In January, before the end of winter, our whole summer and fall work is laid out; seed lists are looked over and selections made; and the disposition of the fields is planned. Everything that is wanted has to be provided for. There must not be too much of one thing, or too little of another. It will be too late for remedy when the crop is being harvested. You can not change parsnips into carrots while they are being carted to the barn.

Perseverance can not be dispensed with. The growing plants have much to contend against weeds, insects, and drought. Each one of

these evils and hindrances has to be taken in hand and overcome separately. Collectively they look formidable. but not one can not be triumphed over. It has been done in the past and can be done again.

Look back over the year and see what has been performed, well or ill, and so prepare for the future. Almost everybody makes some blunders. It is thus we learn. A mistake heeded is better than an indifferent success. Prepare beforehand and the mistakes of the past will be the sucesses of the future. Foresight, perseverance and industry, intelligently directed, will enable us to succeed not only in getting good crops, but in every occupation of life. H. B. Wardwell

Notes

Sept. 1. Graduates Robert Blanton, Samuel F. Butler, Howard B. Ellis and Clifford M. Pulson here.

Book, "Concerning Cats," presented to the library by the author, Miss Helen M. Winslow.

Sept. 2. Graduates William L. Snow, George Buchan and William C. Carr here.

Sept. 3. Labor Day. Graduates William G. Cummings, Joseph Powers, John F. Peterson and William N. Phillips here.

Getting out the last of the early potatoes.

Sept. 5. Managers Mr. Alfred Bowditch, Mr. I. Tucker Burr, Jr., and Treasurer Mr. Arthur Adams visited the School.

Sept. 7. Book, "Sailing Alone Around the World," presented to the library by Mr. Frederick G. Pettigrove.

Sept. 8. Mrs. Bradley and a squad of boys visited Norumbega Park.

A hawk which had been disturbing our chickens for several days was shot.

Cottage Row officers decided to dispense with the services of the mule Johnson, accord- to the following vote:—

"The Mayor and Board of Aldermen, being of one opinion that Johnson, the faithful mule, has past service and is now suffering do hereby vote that he be humanely disposed of.

George Thomas, Mayor.
Fred W. Thompson
William I. Ellwood
Barney Hill, Jr., Aldermen."

New bottoms being put in kitchen sinks.

Sept. 10. Began digging the large field of potatoes.

Sept. 11. Clarence Taylor entered the School.

Sept. 12. Severe West wind.

Two boats driven on the beach.

Forty-six barrels of apples blown off.

Sept. 13. One car-load of millfeed towed from the N. Y., N. H. & H. R. R. docks to our Island.

Arthur Wellesley left the School to live with Charles M. Perley of Ipswich, Mass.

Island Pleasure Association held their second anniversary banquet. Graduates Leo T. Decis, William G. Cummings, Thomas Brown, Howard B. Ellis and Herbert A. Hart present.

Sept. 15. Mr. Wardwell took three different squads of boys for a sail in the WINSLOW in the afternoon.

Sept. 17. Teachers visiting schools in town. No school in the afternoon.

Began pulling the onions.

Sept. 19. Finished getting in the potatoes.

Book, "Woodworking for Boys" given to the library by the author, Mr. Charles G. Wheeler.

Sept. 21. Blacksmith shoeing the horses all around.

Sept. 22. Miss Wright and a squad of boys attended the Suffolk County L. T. L. convention at Roslindale.

Treasurer Mr. Arthur Adams and graduates Earnest W. Austin and Clarence W. Loud visited the School.

Sept. 25. Our old landing in Pleasure Bay torn down and we began to use our new quarters at the Public Landing.

Sept. 26. Last Visiting Day of the season. Two hundred and twelve present among them being Treasurer Mr. Arthur Adams and Manager Mr. Francis Shaw, also

graduates George A. Bennett, William Davis, Samuel F. Butler, Frederick N. Frasier, Ervin L. Oakes, Harry A. English, Thomas Punchard and James McCabe.

Sept. 28. Summer term of school closed.

Boys' wash-room painted and white-enameled.

Sept. 30. Sunday. The National Secretary of L. T. L. work, Mrs. Helen G. Rice, addressed the boys at 3 P. M. She was accompanied by several members of the South Boston W. C. T. U. and our old friend, Mrs. Margaret J. Magennis.

Mr. William M. Macnair resumed his work as Sunday assistant after his vacation.

Graduate William L. Snow called and left a West India Guinea pig for our collection of pets.

Through a misunderstanding, it was stated in the September Beacon, that Miss Granville, who visited the School on August 24, was a grand-daughter of John D. Williams, a former Manager and benefactor of the School. Instead of this, Miss Mary Weld and Miss H. D. W. Weld, of Jamaica Plain, who were here at the same time, are his grand-nieces.

Farm School Bank

Cash on hand Sept. 1st, 1900,	$305.32
Deposited during the month,	36.70
	$342.02
Withdrawn during the month,	22.26
Balance Oct. 1st, 1900,	$319.76

Rank in Classes

Boys who ranked first and second in their classes for the summer term, ending September 28, are as follows:

First Class

George Thomas — George G. Noren

Second Class

Charles F. Spear — Harold S. Taylor

Third Class

Clarence DeMar — Warren Holmes

Fourth Class

Albert W. Hinckley — William C. J. Frueh

Fifth Class

Harris H. Todd — Charles Warner

Sixth Class

William F. O'Conner — Harry W. Lake

Fixing the Cottages for Winter

Every fall the fellows fix their cottages for winter. They inspect them and put on new shingles where they are needed; also patch up the clapboards and finishing which have rotted or have gone to pieces in any way. The floors are lifted up and if there are any field mice they are driven out. The carpets are taken up and beaten. If they need it, the cottages are painted. Some fellows put a plank walk before the door of their cottage. All glass is set. When a fellow wants to repair his cottage he must get Mr. Littlefield to come over and he says what he thinks had better be done and then the fellow sends in a requisition for the material which is needed.

Frederick F. Burchsted.

The Shower Bath

August 16, a plumber from Wm. H. Mitchell & Son came to put a shower bath in the wash-room. We used tubs before. I left my work at the wharf to help. The shower bath is made of two-inch brass pipe which is first screwed on to some hard pine and these bolted to the ceiling, making the shower bath in the form of a rectangle about twenty feet long and two feet wide. This brass pipe has little holes in it. A copper cylinder is called the mixer because it is the place where the cold and hot water come together making the water of the right temperature. From the top of the mixer there is a pipe which runs to the shower bath. At the bottom of the mixer there are two valves and to each is connected a union L. From that run two pipes which are bent so that one will fit on to the hot water pipe and the other to the cold water pipe. Then there is a small piece of pipe running out in front of that on to which is connected another piece of pipe which goes to the circular or individual shower. This is a circle made of brass pipe with little holes in it. The circular bath is in the centre of the long shower.

Howard L. Hinckley.

Playing on the Lawn

One evening as I was going to bed, Henry Bradley stopped me and asked me to go out of doors and play games with him and some other fellows. As soon as we got out we played hide-and-go-seek, drop-the-handkerchief, and motions. It is lots of fun to play on the lawn because when you fall on the grass, you do not hurt yourself so much as you do when you fall on the play-ground. When we play hide and seek the fellow that is it goes and hides his eyes and counts two-hundred, and sometimes five hundred. After he counts the number, he goes and tries to find the other fellows. While he is trying to find one, another will get to the goal first. If the fellow that is it sees anyone, he shouts out, "One two three for you," and when the last fellow is caught, he is it next time.

LESLIE R. JONES.

Repairing the Boat

About the middle of July a number of boys carried the boat named the BREWSTER from the wharf to the shop for repairs. I had to make new foot-holds for the braces that the rowers use to put their feet against, so they will not slip when they pull on the oar. I had to wait two weeks or more before I could work on it again. After that I helped John Conklin scrape the varnish off and then we sand-papered it. We finished it in one afternoon. The next day was Saturday. We wanted to hurry so we wouldn't have to work in the afternoon. We put one coat on the inside and one on the outside in the morning. The next Monday we put the second coat on and finished painting the boat. Then there came the task of lettering it. We got the lettering done in a day.

JOSEPH E. K. ROBBLEE.

The Lockers

The thirty-six new lockers in the shop are just finished. They are arranged in three rows, one above the other. Among them is a place for all the models in the sloyd department. Upon opening one door, you may see two frames for hammers and screw drivers, both kinds of tools hanging in the frames. Open another door and you see a lot of models on one shelf. There may be a pen tray that is not carved yet, blocks of wood that have been chopped and made already to be worked out on the lathe for the mallet handle, also an unfinished wedge, or a footstool. There are three doors like this where the first, second and third class sloyd boys put their unfinished models. There are sixteen boys in each class and they are divided into groups of four. Each set has a shelf where they can put their unfinished models. In another locker we keep all kinds of nails, such as floor, board, finish, wire and shingle nails. The cobbler has a locker where he keeps all his tools and work. Right to the left of that is the place where we keep the shellac, a can of gasoline, a can of glue, and two cans of wood alcohol. In other lockers there are kept sand-paper, emery cloth, blue prints, sloyd and shop aprons and the monkey and Stilson wrenches and other machine tools.

AXEL E. RENQUIST.

Cleaning the Cellar

It is now fall and the vegetables have to have a place for the winter so George Mayott and myself cleaned up the little room leading off the barn cellar, called the root-cellar, where the mangles and potatoes are kept. We got the tools we needed and worked steadily that afternoon, sweeping and taking out the dirt. The next day we went down again and took out a pen that was in there to separate the two kinds of vegetables and used the lumber for other things. On Wednesday and Thursday we worked in the cellar just outside the root-cellar. In this place we have shelves where we keep the cabbages, turnips and other vegetables of that sort. We had to move some bags of sawdust that were standing up against the shelves so that we could sweep there. In lifting one of them, we pulled too hard and split the bag and the sawdust spilled around on the floor. George and I felt a little discouraged at first because it spoilt part of the sawdust, but we went down to the old barn and got two barrels in which we put the dirty sawdust. After the sawdust was cleaned up we swept cobwebs and washed windows.

WILLIAM B. MAY.

Alumni

James McCabe, '75, after four years at the School, worked at candy-making for seventeen years for B. P. Clark of Cambridge. In 1892 he joined the Cambridge Fire Department, and is now Engineer of Chemical 1, Central Square. He has one son. His home is at 125 Green St.

Joseph Powers, '99, has worked for the Hood Rubber Co. of Watertown, Mass. for a year, and is doing well. He lives with his aunt at 8 Foster Court, East Watertown.

Herbert A. Hart, '99, shortly after leaving the School, entered the employ of Couch and Seeley of Boston, manufacturers of telephones, as office boy. Three months ago he was promoted to timekeeper at their factory. Herbert says he likes the work, and intends to stick to it. He lives with his mother at 170 Putnam Street, East Boston.

My Visit to Norumbega Park

Saturday, September 8, Mrs. Bradley took me with six other boys on a pleasure excursion to Norumbega Park. We started at about ten o'clock in the morning and after a pleasant ride of about twenty miles in the electric cars we reached the Park. We ate our lunch as soon as we got there. We then went to see the animals, of which there are many kinds, including deer, black and cinnamon bears, monkeys, foxes, coyotes, timber wolves and others. As we were going along we saw two cubs starting to fight, but the old bear came up and gave one of them a nip that made him yelp and let go of the other cub in a hurry. After we had seen all the animals we went down to the river bank to see the water lilies and canoes. We also saw some Indians making baskets and selling them. At about a quarter of three we went to a place called an outdoor theatre and staid until the entertainment closed. On our way home we met some of the graduates of the School and reached City Point before the time intended. We all thanked Mrs. Bradley for the fine time we had. We went to bed at nine o'clock and got up ready for work the next day.

Arthur I. Purdy.

Raking Leaves

In the morning before school and in the after-noon, Mr. Chamberlin has boys to rake the lawns, which have a lot of leaves on them. When there are enough leaves to make a pile we do so. Then two boys come along and pick them up. When the bag is full a boy takes it down to the barn or down to the pig pen. One day I was carrying some down to the pig pen and as soon as the pigs heard me they began to squeal and thought I had something for them to eat. As I was putting them in, a few came up and poked around them when the bag slipped and fell on them and they ran away.

William C. J. Frueh.

The Bakery Work

Every day I begin my regular duties at seven o'clock, and finish at quarter past eleven. Another boy and I mix the night before, and at five o'clock the next morning I get up and get the bread ready for baking. It is first cut up in two pound loaves, then kneaded and put into the tins to rise for baking. We usually mix eighty loaves, the most being one hundred and twelve. A fire in the brick oven is started at three o'clock in the morning and kept up until the bread is ready to go in. When I go down at five o'clock I see that a good fire is blazing. The bread tins are then larded, which takes about ten minutes. When that is done I cut up the dough, knead it and put it into the tins to rise. While the dough is rising I scrape the tray in which the dough was mixed. This takes about ten minutes and then I put some more wood onto the fire and clean myself for breakfast. At seven o'clock I rake down the fire if it is ready. If the bread is all ready to go into the oven I put it in and then I begin cleaning up the bakery. Sweeping the floor comes first, then the general cleaning, such as washing paint, cleaning the oven and the floor. Every day the oven is scrubbed down with soap and hot water which makes it look neat and clean. All the wood which is used for the oven is drift wood, which is picked up by the farm boys, sawed and chopped, and taken up to the wood cellar from which it is taken to the bakery oven by me.

Charles Hill.

upplement

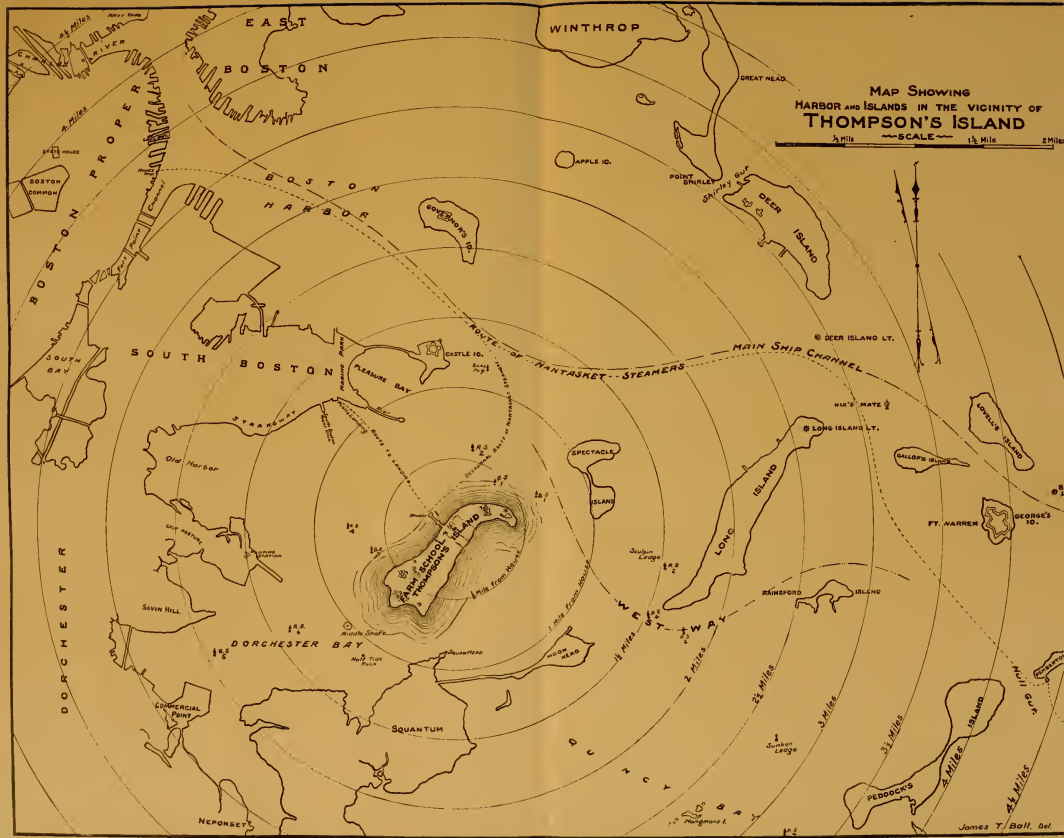
1900.

at the

ompson's Island.

Mass.

th Year.


MAP SHOWING
HARBOR AND ISLANDS IN THE VICINITY OF
THOMPSON'S ISLAND
SCALE
½ Mile
1½ Mile
2 Miles
EAST BOSTON
WINTHROP
GREAT HEAD
APPLE IO.
POINT SHIRLEY
Shirley Gut
DEER ISLAND
BOSTON PROPER
BOSTON COMMON
BOSTON HARBOR
GOVERNOR'S IO.
SOUTH BOSTON
SOUTH BAY
CASTLE IO.
PLEASURE BAY
ROUTE OF NANTASKET STEAMERS
MAIN SHIP CHANNEL
DEER ISLAND LT.
NIX'S MATE
LONG ISLAND LT.
LOVELL'S ISLAND
GALLOPS ISLAND
FT. WARREN
GEORGE'S IO.
STRAIGHT
Old Harbor
SPECTACLE ISLAND
LONG ISLAND
FARM SCHOOL
THOMPSON'S ISLAND
1 Mile from House
Sculpin Ledge
RAINSFORD ISLAND
WEST WAY
SAVIN HILL
DORCHESTER BAY
Middle Shaft
Half Tide Rock
SQUAMHEAD
MOON HEAD
DORCHESTER
COMMERCIAL POINT
SQUANTUM
QUINCY BAY
Sunken Ledge
PEDDOCK'S ISLAND
Hull Gut
NEPONSET
Mangmone I.
James T. Ball, Del.

Beacon

Octob

Prin

Farm School, C

Bosto

Eighty-

Thompson's Island

Beacon

Vol. 4. No. 7. PRINTED AT THE FARM SCHOOL, BOSTON, MASS. November, 1900.

Buildings on Our Island

There are twenty-four buildings on our Island, the Main Building, Gardner Hall, Farm House, Stock Barn, Storage Barn, Poultry House, Corn Barn, two Boat Houses, Ash House, Ladder House, Hose House and twelve Cottages.

The Main Building, as it is called, is situated on the highest hill on the Island. It is built of brick, painted. The original part was in the shape of a cross. An addition was made on the north-east side and on the east side so that it formed a court-yard. The west wing of the Main Building contains some of the instructors' rooms, the clothing room and store rooms, sewing room and one of the boys' dormitories. The east wing contains the boys' dining room, school rooms, dormitories, and a playroom. The southern part of the building contains Mr. Bradley's rooms and the instructors' dining rooms. The northern part contains the office, reading room, laundry, kitchen, bakery and some of the instructors' rooms.

Gardner Hall is situated about 105 feet south-east of the Main Building. It has the shape of an oblong and is built of brick with a gable roof. The second floor is a gymnasium, and the band instruments and books are kept there. On the first floor are the printing office, sloyd, carpentering and cobbling departments. The basement is used for the blacksmith and paint-shop.

The Farm House is situated on a knoll, surrounded by trees, in about the center of the farm. It is occupied by the farmers.

The Stock Barn is in front of the wharf. It is headquarters for the farm. We store all our hay and grain on the second floor. The farm tools are kept in the tool-room next to the farmers' room. We keep the carriages in a room opposite. In this barn are the cows, calves, horses, bull and other stock. A room in the cellar is divided into bins in which we keep potatoes, carrots and mangels. We keep part of our supply of coal in a bin in the cellar.

The Storage Barn is about seventy yards south-west of the Stock Barn principally used for storage. It is used to keep the large farm tools such as the mower, roller, horse-rake, ploughs, tedder and harrows. We keep the salt hay, corn stalks, lumber, barrels and boxes on scaffolds. The pigs are in pens in the basement of the Storage Barn.

The Poultry House is divided off into pens, with a corresponding pen outside made of boards and wire netting, each entered by gates at the side. There is a hole at the end of each for the poultry. In the loft the carrier pigeons are kept.

The Corn Barn is about fifteen yards from the Poultry House. It is used to store our Indian corn. It is about thirty-five feet long, twelve feet wide and about nine feet high. It is set on posts covered with tin to keep out rats and mice. It has a gable roof. The sides slant inward to keep out the wet; the boards are about one-half an inch apart to admit air.

At the wharf are two Boat Houses; one of which, called the CHILTON house, is where we keep the MARY CHILTON, our largest row boat. In the other we keep the oars, oilskins, ropes, boats, rudders, anchors, etc. In a shed behind the Boat Houses we keep the steamer's coal.

Behind Gardner Hall are the Hose House, Ladder House and Ash House. In addition to these are twelve cottages of Cottage Row, including City Hall and Audubon Hall, built and owned by the boys.

THOMAS W. TIERNEY.

Some of our Vegetables

On the farm we have a variety of vegetables. It is hard telling which is the best for they will all come in handy. The tomato and onion are used for piccalilli. One ounce of tomato seed will produce 1,500 plants. It is a delicious vegetable and is the most important one of all garden products, I think. There are about twenty different kinds. The onion is good for preserving in piccalilli. One ounce of onion seed will sow one hundred feet of drill, or four or five pounds to an acre. The potatoes are very good vegetables for our health. A good sand loam produces the best potatoes. Salsify comes in handy when you haven't any oysters. It is sliced up and stewed like oysters; it tastes like them. That is why it got its name, oyster plant. One ounce will sow fifty feet of drill. The Hubbard squash is good for fall and winter. One ounce of the small seeded variety will plant forty hills; of large seeds, fifteen hills.

WALTER L. BUTLER.

Picking Apples

The apples that can be reached from the ground are picked first and while one boy climbs the tree for the higher ones, another takes a ladder and picks around the ends of the branches where the boy in the tree cannot reach. Some times when the boy is picking, he gets on a limb which is not strong enough for him, and down he goes, but he seldom gets hurt. When the boy who is picking on a tree gets a half-bushel basket full he puts it in a pile of other apples of the same kind and goes back and begins picking again. What we call sorting is this. The apples are looked over and the ones that do not have any bruises or spots on them and are of a fair size are called "number ones" and are put in one barrel. Those that have just a few spots on them are called "number twos" and are put in another barrel, while those that have a large cut or a bruise in them are put in a barrel by themselves. Some of the different kinds of apples are Hubbardston, Waterloo, Golden and Silver Russet, Baldwin, Northern Spy and Sweet of several sorts.

HAROLD S. TAYLOR.

Our Schoolroom

Our regular schoolroom is being made larger, so we have school in the drawer-room. The drawer-room is a room where all the boys' drawers are. It is a snug little place and I had much rather have it just now than the other one. We have two tables in the room. One is a very large one, the other is about half the size, and there are two desks. At the large table seven boys sit; at the small one three sit and one at each desk. We have a blackboard that we can turn round. I sit at the large table and am third boy.

CLARENCE TAYLOR.

Unloading Bricks

One morning as there was no sloyd, the class went down to the wharf where the scow had on a cargo of nine thousand bricks, to help unload it. The four largest boys got down into the scow and tossed the bricks up to four other fellows who dropped them into a pile and then some other boys packed them into nice piles. The two-horse cart and the one-horse dump-cart took them up to the house where they were used.

EDWARD B. TAYLOR.

Carrying Bricks

One afternoon Mr. Chamberlin told some of us boys to go and help carry brick. There were two kinds of bricks, hard and soft. I carried from the hard pile. Some of the time I would load the fellows that wanted me to. Once another fellow and I carried twenty bricks on a piece of board. He took another fellow in my place so that they could carry more and they carried thirty bricks.

FRANK E. WELCH.

Blankets

October 15, the dormitory boys put on the second blanket. We went up to the west loft to get the blankets and we had to move a number of boxes before we got the right ones. We carried our blankets down to the east dormitory, then to the west and then to the smaller dormitory. After the blankets were taken out I took out the paper and tacks that were used in lining the boxes. I cleaned up the west loft and put the boxes in their right place.

DANIEL W. MURRAY.

Giving out Garden Prizes

One Sunday evening in chapel we sang a few songs and then Mr. Bradley read to the boys a letter from Mr. Grew about his visit in Scotland and it was very interesting to me and it was to the other boys and the instructors. After he got through reading to us about the visit, he gave out the Grew garden prizes for the summer. I thought I would take one and I would like to have had one but some boys had gardens that were better than mine and so I did not take a prize. GEORGE A. C. MCKENZIE.

Making Vinegar

During a heavy wind awhile ago, a lot of apples fell off the trees in the orchard. These were picked up, sorted over, put in clean flour barrels and put under the corn-barn till we could use them. Before we could dispose of them they began to rot. Mr. Bradley thought he would lose a lot of apples if he did not do some thing about it, so he got a cider-mill. It has a crank and as one turns it, some knives go round and crush the apples that have been put in. As they are crushed they drop into a tub below the knives. A boy keeps turning till the tub is full, then he pushes it along until it is under the press. Another tub is put under the knives and we press the one that is full. We take a piece of wood that fits into the tub and turn a wheel that presses the juice out of the crushed apples. The juice runs down through the little spaces in the tub and down a spout into a bucket. When we get one bucket full we put another under the spout. The full bucket is emptied through a strainer into a barrel and when the barrel is full we plug it up and let it turn to vinegar. It takes three boys to run the cider-mill besides the boys who see that the wormholes are cut out of the apples before they are put through the knives. Sometimes when the juice is first pressed out of the apples we take a taste and it is sweet.

GEORGE G. NOREN.

Cottage Row Caucus

When there is going to be a caucus, the Mayor tells the Clerk to put a notice up on the bulletin board which is in the playroom. We most always have it on a Tuesday night a week before the election, but this time we had it on a Thursday night. The meeting is called to order by the Mayor and he says that he will select his committee of three, which is called the Mayor's Committee; then he will ask the citizens to nominate candidates for their committee, which is called the Citizen's Committee. We then vote upon these names and three having the largest number are elected. The duty of the committee is to make up the ballot. When a citizen wants to run for an office he goes to either committee and tries to get his name put down for it. After the ballot is made up it is given to the clerk who signs it and sends it to the printing office to be printed. A "C" is put down after the name of the citizens that are nominated by the Citizen's Committee, an "M" after the nominees of the Mayor's Committee. Sometimes a candidate has both.

CHARLES F. SPEAR.

Husking Corn

After the corn is harvested and put into the barn, it is husked. In getting situated to husk we get three boxes, one to sit on and the other two to put the corn in; then we take a stook or some scatterings and commence to husk. In husking we have to separate the pig corn, or corn that is soggy and has but a few kernels on the ear. The good corn, or corn that is sound and all right, is kept and put in the corn-barn to be shelled. Sometimes we come across ears that are covered with kernels clear to the tip end; these are saved for seed corn and we do not have to husk them but braid the husk so that the trace can be hung up to be cured or dried. Sometimes we race in seeing who will miss the least number of ears of corn in an afternoon, by leaving them on the bundles after we have husked them. These are looked over by one of the farmers and if we miss two ears we sometimes get a spanking with a corn stalk. The bundles of corn stalks are put up on the scaffold to be fed out to the cattle in the winter. There is a lot of corn that is not husked yet.

EDWIN W. GOODNOUGH.

Thompson's Island Beacon

Printed Monthly by the Boys of the

FARM SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor.

A PRIVATE HOME-TRAINING SCHOOL
DEPENDENT UPON DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS.

Vol. 4. No. 7. November, 1900.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE 50 cents per year.

Entered at the Post Office at Boston as second class matter.

BOARD OF MANAGERS

PRESIDENT
RICHARD M. SALTONSTALL

VICE-PRESIDENT
EBEN BACON

TREASURER
ARTHUR ADAMS

SECRETARY
TUCKER DALAND

MANAGERS
MELVIN O. ADAMS
ALFRED BOWDITCH
I. TUCKER BURR, JR.
CHARLES P. CURTIS, JR.
CHARLES T. GALLAGHER
HENRY S. GREW
JOSHUA B. HOLDEN, JR.
JOHN HOMANS, 2d, M.D.
WALTER HUNNEWELL
FRANCIS SHAW
THOMAS F. TEMPLE

CHARLES H. BRADLEY Superintendent

Citizenship and Voting

Citizenship is a right given to men by the state. It is not an inalienable right; for it may be surrendered, or one may be deprived of it. (The Indian is not a citizen of our country, nor is the child of Chinese parents, though born in this country.) But probably at no time in the world has the right of citizenship been so generally held as at present. Citizenship involves certain duties, chief of which is loyalty. An alien resident must not oppose the state, but the citizen is expected to give it positive support. If he plots against the state, he can be tried for treason. Now voting is one of the most important functions of citizenship, and it is so because it is so largely representative. Every vote must represent, actually more than one person; for non-citizens are not allowed to vote, and women and minors must be represented through the votes of their male relatives of voting age. Prisoners cannot vote, and even citizens are inhibited from voting for a certain time after removal from one state to another. The voter then must realize that a certain power and responsibility is given him. If he is conscientious, he will feel that his vote is given him not to use for his own selfish interests, but for the good of the whole people. The voters, numbering less than one-fifth of the population, elect men to enact and enforce laws for the entire population.

As soon, then, as we stop to consider the matter, it will be seen that it is most important to train men to vote intelligently. The boy who lives in a Democratic ward thinks the whole country must be Democratic, while the boy in another ward thinks that all men are Republicans. The political prejudices instilled into boys' minds by older men will affect them for years, and we ought to realize that it is much more important for men to be able to think intelligently and to decide fairly, than it is for them to vote as partisans. The safety of our country lies in teaching the coming voters to realize their responsibility and to prepare them for their great duty,—that of voting for the welfare of the people as a whole, and not for any section or class.

Wm M. Macnair

Thanksgiving

Graduates are cordially invited to spend Thanksgiving at the School. The steamer will leave the Public Landing, City Point at 10 o'clock. As it is presumed quite a number will be present, only graduates or graduates with their wives and children will be expected. Those accepting the invitation will please inform Mr. Bradley by card or letter on or before Saturday, November 24, that ample arrangements may be made for the pleasure of all.

Notes

Oct. 1. Finished cutting corn.

Flags received from Miss S. B. Fay.

Oct. 2. Quarterly election of officers of Cottage Row.

Monthly meeting of Managers held at the School. There were present Vice President Mr. Eben Bacon, Treasurer Mr. Arthur Adams and Managers Mr. Alfred Bowditch, Mr. I. Tucker Burr, Jr., Mr. Charles T. Gallagher, Mr. Walter Hunnewell and Mr. Francis Shaw.

Oct. 3. Began the re-arrangement of the schoolrooms.

Charles B. Bartlett left the School to live with his uncle in Lynn, Mass.

Oct. 4. Harvested winter squash and pumpkins.

Herbert E. Balentine left the School to work for the S. A. Woods Machine Co., of South Boston and live with his aunt at 23 Dexter Street, South Boston.

Oct. 5. The PILGRIM towed two loads of lumber, brick, etc., from A. M. Stetson & Co.'s wharf.

Graduate Joseph A. Carr finished his summer's work for Mr. J. T. Coolidge, Jr., at Portsmouth, N. H., and returned to the School temporarily.

Oct. 6. One load of lumber etc. from Stetson's.

Seventy-five picture cards received from Mrs. M. J. Magennis.

Oct. 8. Graduate Henry O. Wilson began work on the repairs at the School.

Stone masons began work on a brick tower for a staircase to dormitory and schoolrooms.

A man from Walker, Pratt M'f'g. Co., making slight repairs on the stoves and furnaces and Mr. Whittemore from the same house making estimates on steam heating apparatus.

Oct. 9. Frederick Chester Welch entered the School.

Oct. 10. Mr. A. A. Cole resumed his labors as teacher of music in the School.

A concert in the afternoon given under the direction of Miss Stella M. Haines, teacher of elocution at the Boston Conservatory of Music, with Miss Lizzie Meade of Concord Junction as reader.

Oct. 11. Monthly meeting of Company X.

Oct. 12. Load of lumber, etc., from Stetson's.

Oct. 13. Pulled red beets.

Car load of hay towed from the N. Y., N. H. & H. R. R. docks.

Oct. 14. The Henry S. Grew Garden Prizes awarded.

Oct. 18. Miss C. V. Drinkwater, Supt. of Boston Y. W. C. Ass'n., visited the School.

Oct. 19. Finished picking the apples.

Capt. Hamilton and crew of the U. S. Life Saving Station gave us a barrel of cranberries.

Oct. 25. Secretary Mr. Tucker Daland, Treasurer Mr. Arthur Adams and Manager Mr. Alfred Bowditch visited the School.

Oct. 26. Capt. Hamilton of the U. S. L. S. S. loaned us their graphophone for an evening's entertainment.

Oct. 27. Mr. W. Graydon Stetson gave us a year's subscription to the Outlook.

Oct. 29. Gathered the last of the tomatoes.

Workmen from Walker Pratt M'f'g. Co., began putting in apparatus for steam heat in the new rooms, the front and the east section of the building.

Mr. John B. Fielding and graduates Harold E. Brenton and LeRoy S. Kenfield with Mrs. Kenfield and her friend, Mrs. M. Baker visited the School.

Oct. 30. Albert Leroy Sawyer entered the School.

Oct. 31. Charles Follen Adams (Yawcob

Strauss) read for our entertainment. The band furnished music.

Death has recently taken one of the School's most worthy friends, Capt. J. G. B. Adams, Sergeant at Arms for Massachusetts. A few years ago Capt. Adams made a visit and spent the night at the School. Most of the boys who were here then will remember that night which they spent on the lawn in front of the house. The band played and we enjoyed a pleasant evening. We listened with great interest to the stories of war told by Capt. Adams from his own experience. When he went away he expressed a desire to have some of the boys make him a visit at the State House. Some time afterward the advanced class and a few others, with Miss Winslow, made the desired visit. We were received at the State House by Capt. Adams himself. He showed us into the Senate Chamber during a session and also into the House of Representatives. From there he took us to many different and interesting places. One especially was the Memorial Hall, built of beautiful Sienna marble. In each one of the four corners of the Hall is an air-tight case with a glass front in which are preserved the old war flags. The 19th Regiment flag showed up very plainly, in which Capt. Adams took great pride, it being the flag of his regiment. After looking through the House, he invited us into his own private room where we enjoyed a long talk full of advice and good cheer. We considered the visit and the attention paid to us, a very great honor.

The evening after Capt. Adams died, Mr. Bradley told us boys of his death and read us an interesting chapter from his book, The History of the 19th Regiment. The book is to be added to our library and we shall all take great pleasure in reading it. WILLIAM AUSTIN.

Farm School Bank

Cash on hand Oct. 1st, 1900,	$319.76
Deposited during the month,	23.13
	$342.89
Withdrawn during the month,	11.11
Balance Nov. 1st, 1900,	$331.78

Cottage Row Election

October 2, the Cottage Row citizens had their regular quarterly election of officers. We have our ballots printed with the names of the candidates on and the number of officers for one position, as,— "for Aldermen, vote for three; Assessor, vote for one." The mayor calls the meeting to order, the clerk passes out the ballots and the citizens vote. The ballots are collected and the mayor and aldermen count them, after which the clerk reads the result of the election. The result of last election was as follows;— mayor, George E. Hart; aldermen, Charles F. Spear, Daniel W. Laighton, Charles W. Jorgensen; assessor, Clarence DeMar; street commissioner, Lester H. Witt; chief of police, Frederick P. Thayer; jurymen, Edward L. Davis, Harold S. Taylor, Charles W. Jorgensen, Carl L. Wittig, Frank C. Simpson, James A. Edson and Lester H. Witt.

The mayor appointed as clerk, Don C. Clark; curator, Edward B. Taylor; librarian, Carl L. Wittig; treasurer, Henry Bradley; janitor, Jacob Glutt. The chief of police appointed as his patrolmen, Edward L. Davis, Walter L. Butler, Joseph E. K. Robblee, and John Tierney.

GEORGE THOMAS.

Harvesting Corn

We have two fields of corn; one at the south end and the other at the north end. We started at the south end first. The corn is cut with sickles. Two or three cut the corn and lay it in bunches. If the corn stalks are very large there are but three put into one bundle. If the stalks are small there are four. The ones that cut the corn have to look out not to cut the pumpkins that grow among the corn. The one that binds it has to tie it just above the ears so when it is husked the string will not have to be cut. After some corn is cut and bound, we stop and stook it. A stook is made up of a number of bundles. After it is all stooked and stood up it is left in the field for a few days to dry. After it is dry it is taken to the barn by the horses and wagon to be husked.

WILLIAM B. MAY.

Harvesting Carrots

One squad of fellows digs the carrots up with forks. Another squad tops them and puts the tops in one pile and the carrots in another. One fellow carries in the single dumpcart, first a load of carrots to the carrot-bin in the stock-barn cellar, where there is another squad to take them from the cart and put them in the bin. Then the cart afore-mentioned goes back and takes a load of carrot tops to the stable floors, from which place they are afterward fed to the cattle, as they make excellent cattle feed. The carrots are used in three ways through the winter: part of them, or the middle sized ones, are used for cooking; the large ones are cut up for the cattle, and the poorest ones are fed to the piggery.

FREDERICK F. BURCHSTED.

Working on the Dike

One day Mr. Wardwell took eight fellows to work on the dikes, and I was one of them. We lined up and walked down the rear avenue and stopped in front of the barn and another fellow and I were sent up to the stock-barn for some shovels and a pick. We got them and ran over to the dikes, where the other fellows were, and gave shovels to those that needed them. Some fellows had to pile stone and some shovel. I was one that had to level the road off and put the dirt on the dike so when the water comes up it won't wash over. When it was time to go up we got our coats and shovels and went up as far as the float, and the fellows undressed and had a swim.

LESLIE R. JONES.

Painting the Washroom

When the new shower bath was put in, the washroom was repainted and fixed all over. We sandpapered the walls and fixed the rough places so that the paint would lie on smooth. I filled the holes in the walls with plaster-of-Paris, but in the woodwork I put putty. We put on two coats of white paint all over the room and when that was dry we started to enamel. The enamel, which is used like varnish, was quite easy to put on. It gave the wall a fine white look and made it have a shine. It took two and one-half of the large thirteen-pound cans of enamel to go over the room twice. The window sashes we painted Indian red on the inside and black on the outside. We varnished the insides to make them shine. The tooth brush rack was also painted white and enameled.

JOHN J. CONKLIN.

Cottage Row Library

There is a library in the City Hall of Cottage Row; it contains about three hundred volumes, mostly boys' stories. Most of the books were given to the School. On the front cover of the book and inside, there are labels that have printed on them, "Cottage Row Library, Thompson's Island." They have also the number of the book written on them in ink. There is a librarian to take charge of the library; he is appointed by the Mayor. The librarian keeps a list of all boys that take out books, in a book kept for that purpose. Carl L. Wittig is the librarian now. The library is open on Sunday. It is only Cottage Row citizens that are allowed to take these books, there being the School Library from which all the boys can take books.

DANIEL W. LAIGHTON.

School-Room Work

At seven o'clock right after breakfast, James Edson and I go to work in the large school-room. While he is gone around to Miss Strong's room to get the keys, I carry one lamp down to the sewing-room. He gives me the keys and I unlock the cupboard where the broom, brush and dust-pan are kept, and unlock the door that leads out into the upper shed so that we can hang up our coats and caps. While I am sweeping the front part of the room the other boy carries the lamps that were used the night before down to the sewing-room where they are cleaned. When this is done, he helps me move the settees as I sweep the rest of the room, then he does whatever Miss Strong gives him to do until I am ready to set up the three ables and put the chairs around them that are used in school. After this I sweep where the chairs were, empty the waste basket and give out the books, pencil-boxes, and ink when we have writing, while James does the dusting.

LESTER H. WITT.

Alumni

LeRoy S. Kenfield, '82, has been selected for the Boston Symphony Orchestra, as trombone player. He receives the sincere congratulation of the Farm School, where his first training in music was received. It is one of the most marked promotions a musician can get and to become a member of this, the best orchestra in America, is every musician's ambition, and it is a mark of excellence. He is at least the third Farm School boy to become a member of the Symphony Orchestra. He is highly thought of by everybody, in business as well as in music. The following sketch of his career with his portrait appeared in a Philadelphia paper:—

"Mr. L. S. Kenfield is an illustration of typical American talent who, by earnest study and close attention, worked his way up to his present position, and there are few equal to him in the country at present. He began playing at the age of 12 and played with a boys' band until he was 16, when he went to Boston, where he has since made his home, barring 7 years that he was on the road. He has been through all classes of the business, from skating rinks and vaudeville shows up to grand opera and symphony concerts. For two season he was with the J. Stetson Opera Co., three seasons with the "Boston Ideals" Opera Co. and two seasons with the Emma Juch Opera Co. He played first trombone for nine consecutive summers with the famous Boston Cadet Band, two summer seasons with Perkins' Concert Band, the past summer with L'Africain's Band at Bass Point, Nahant, and for the last 8 winter seasons at the Boston Theatre. He is very popular with musicians all over the New England States, among whom his word is considered as good as his bond, and owing to this and his faultless manner, with the public in general, too. Being only 34 years old and having already held such responsible positions for extended periods, we predict that he will rise still higher, and hold him as one of the fittest examples for young musicians to emulate."

He has done much for the School. He presented a trombone to the band and is ever willing to give his services. His home is in Boston. He lives with his mother in a very pleasant house of his own at 129 Pembroke St.

Henry O. Wilson, '89, is at the Island doing general work on the new tower and the alterations that are going on.

Thomas Brown, '00, has, we are glad to state, recovered from a severe attack of typhoid fever. He went to the City Hospital October 3rd, and was discharged on the 26th. As his strength has not yet wholly returned, he will not go back to work for a couple of weeks. He has a good place with Hilton and Aldrich Co., South Market Street, Boston.

Joseph A. Carr, '00, has within two weeks returned to the School from Portsmouth, N. H. where he has been working during the summer, for Mr. J. T. Coolidge, Jr. He had the care of a sloop and small boats. Joe was one of the crew of our steamer, Pilgrim.

Alumni Notice

A meeting of the Farm School Alumni Association will be held at the School on Thanksgiving Day. The boat will leave the public landing at City Point, South Boston, at 10 o'clock A. M.

Immediately upon the arrival of the boat at the Island the meeting will be held in Gardner Hall. The election of officers for next year will be held, reports of committees read, applications for admission considered, dues collected and any other proper business will be transacted.

A Rugby Game will be played in the afternoon at 3 o'clock between the School and Alumni teams. An entertainment will be given in the evening under the management of the Alumni Association.

A delightful visit to the School is anticipated, and we trust that a goodly number of the graduates will be present.

Each graduate intending to be at the School Thanksgiving should send immediate notice to Mr. Bradley.

William G. Cummings,
Secretary.

Thompson's Island

Beacon

Vol. 4. No. 8. PRINTED AT THE FARM SCHOOL, BOSTON, MASS. December, 1900.

Thanksgiving Day

The day opened cold and damp, with a heavy fog on the water, but soon after the sun rose, a light breeze came up and it cleared away. It was a good Thanksgiving Day, as to weather, cold and snappy, the kind that makes one feel hungry.

After breakfast the regular details cleared up the grounds and finished the necessary work. The flags were hoisted, the School pennant at the mast-head, the national colors on the gaff and the International Code Signals dressing the staff.

At about eleven, the steamer towing the John Alden, both laden with graduates, returned to the Island. As she came up to the wharf the colors were dipped. On the playground the graduates received a hearty welcome rom the boys. There were eighty-six of them, a considerably larger number than last year. The Alumni Association met at once in Gardner Hall, but found that they were unable to transact all the business and adjourned until afternoon.

Then came dinner, the long-expected and to many the most important event of the day. The boys were in their own dining-room. Upstairs, in the Assembly Hall, tables were spread for the graduates. The dinner was the conventional one of New England; roast turkey, stuffed and with cranberry sauce, accompanied by vegetables of all sorts, ice-cream, pies of several kinds, fruit, nuts and raisins.

After dinner the Alumni met again and soon after adjourned at one-fifteen P. M.

The foot-ball players on the School and graduate elevens quickly got into trim for the annual game. After a short practice to warm up, the game started. The graduates won the toss and chose the south goal. The School kicked off, the man with the ball was downed and the game went on from a scrimmage. No clear runs brought touch-downs; it was steady pushing through the game. The graduates with their advantage of weight depended on rushing. Neither side did much kicking. The first half ended with a score of seventeen to nothing in the graduate's favor. The second half was a stubborn fight, back and forth across the center of the field, up and down, each striving for a point. The gains were few. The graduates had become tired and winded, and so things were more even. The game ended with the same score, a curious fact being that the game a year ago resulted the same. A boat returned to the city immediately after the game with about thirty, who could not remain for the evening.

After supper all gathered in the Assembly Hall to see the play which the graduates had prepared, called "Enlisted for the War." At seven forty-five the curtain was raised. The two scenes were laid just before and at the end of the Civil War, and opened with the sale of the Trueworth farm, leaving the family homeless and the son, Rob Trueworth, on the point of leaving for the front. At the last moment a home was secured for the widow and her daughter. Rob went to the war a private, but by bravery he finally became colonel of his regiment, succeeding his rival. When the war ended he returned, married the rich heiress, and everything went well. There were many humorous incidents in both acts, enough to relieve each serious situation. It would be hard to pass judgment on the acting. It was all enjoyable; each character was different and each was well filled. Between the acts

Howard B. Ellis, a graduate, played several fine pieces on the cornet. After the play we closed the day by singing our two School songs, the music to one of which was written by Harold E. Brenton, a graduate, and a member of the Park Theatre Orchestra. We all enjoyed the day and feel grateful to all who spent their time to afford us pleasure.

WILLIAM I. ELLWOOD.

The programme of the play was as follows:—

"ENLISTED FOR THE WAR."

A story of our great American Civil War.

Cast of Characters.

ROBERT TRUEWORTH, *John F. Peterson.*
A soldier of the Union.

WILDER ROWELL, *Alden B. Hefler.*
Guardian of Gayly Gifford.

HOSEA JENKS, *Herbert W. French.*
A Punster. A Falsifyer.

HIRAM JENKS, *Clarence W. Loud.*
Son of Hosea. "A mere boy."

CRIMP, *Algine B. Steele.*
"Our Black Cupid."

GAYLY GIFFORD, *Miss Ethel Palmer.*
A Rich Heiress.

MRS. TRUEWORTH, *Miss Isabelle Brown.*
Rob's Mother.

MATTIE TRUEWORTH, *Miss Annie Brown.*
Rob's sister.

Between the Acts.

HOWARD B. ELLIS, *Cornetist.*
G. W. BRENNAN, *Pianist.*

Getting Oil for Winter

The first of October we went over to South Boston to get kerosene oil for the winter. Empty oil barrels were taken down from the scaffold in the old barn and were piled on the wharf, till the scow, JOHN ALDEN, was ready to go. We get about thirty-five barrels of oil at a time. When the scow and steamer had landed at the other side, we took the empty barrels out and rolled them up the gang-plank onto the wharf where we piled them up. We loaded the new barrels of oil into the scow. It took two fellows to take a barrel down to the scow and there were four fellows in the scow to pack them up. After we reached the Island the oil was unloaded and placed a little way beyond the dressing pile on the beach road. We had to clean up the old place where the oil had been and get some planks and joists to build a new one with. The joists were put down on the ground; then we arranged the barrels in tiers with seaweed between and over them to keep the oil from evaporating. A small pile is kept up near the tennis lawn to be handy.

CHARLES A. BLATCHFORD.

Banjos

Some of the boys make small banjos. They take a piece of wood seven or eight inches long and whittle it out into the shape of a banjo. If they can, they use soft pine about one half an inch thick. After they have got the shape they want, they stick some pins or tacks in both ends; then a bridge is made, and some horse hair or thread stretched from end to end of the banjo. Some of the boys make a little bow and use it with the banjo and it makes a little squeaky noise. DANIEL W. LAIGHTON.

Moving the Hose House

The hose house had to be moved to make way for the new tower. I helped. In order to do this we had to loosen the zinc flashing from the main building. After we got that loosened and all other parts disconnected, I got two planks. Then Mr. Elwood took a piece of joist and lifted on the hose house and I put the planks in under and some iron rollers on top of the planks. He then pointed the rollers in the right direction. At first it did not move, until he pulled out some nails near the shed window. After we had moved it once, it went along pretty easily. When we got it about half way out, I saw some clapboards with some writing on them. These told that the hose house was built May 1, 1894, and gave the names of the boys who helped build it. When we had made out the different names we put it in the hose house and went on with our moving. After we got the house clear of the place where the tower was going to be, we put it in a convenient place and spread canvas over the part that had been against the building, to keep the rain out. FRANK C. SIMPSON.

Cottage Row Trial

On October 22, the Cottage Row Municipal Court met to settle a breach of contract between the Cottage Row Government and the firm of Elwood and Hill, architects and designers. On September 27, the Board of Aldermen decided to have the interior of the cabinet in City Hall repaired. The firm of Ellwood and Hill received the contract for the drawing of the plan and the firm of Conklin and Renquist that of building it, the drawing of the plan to be put in by October 1, and the prices to be agreed upon when Ellwood and Hill's plan was sent in. When it was handed in, the price for the plan was set at sixty cents and the builders were to get ninety cents. After the Government had accepted the plan Ellwood and Hill asked for their pay. As the treasurer was about to pay it out he was stopped, so that the matter could be looked into, as sixty cents was thought to be too large a sum. Ellwood and Hill again demanded their pay several times. They then sued the Government October 17. The warrant was issued, the witnesses gathered, and the Government commanded to meet the charge on October 22. The trial opened at eight o'clock P. M. After a long time only four jurymen could be got for the jury, as about fifteen others were objected to for various reasons and then the trial went on. Dana Currier was Judge, William Austin and Fred Hill government attorneys, and C. Alfred H. Malm attorney for the firm of Ellwood and Hill. As Ellwood and Hill were the plaintiffs the trial was opened by their attorney. The plaintiff's side had nine witnesses on the stand who were examined and cross-examined about the meeting of the Board of Aldermen, when the contract was given, when the price was given, whether the meetings of the Board of Aldermen were legal or not and whether the contract was given or not. The questions about all these subjects were asked and answered and all of the acts passed by the Board of Aldermen were proven legal. The defendant's witnesses were then called upon and their evidence was heard. A few minutes were given in which to get ready for the pleas. Many funny questions were asked and in equally as funny a manner answered. One of the defendant's attorneys asked an opposing witness (Axel E. Renquist) if he would have drawn the plan and built the shelves and pigeon holes for his regular price and five cents more. The answer was, "If I were hard up." The plaintiff's attorney had the advantage in the pleas, as he had two times to speak, while the defendant's attorneys could speak only once. After the pleas were given, the Judge went over the trial briefly and had the jury go out under the charge of the chief of police to decide what its verdict would be. The court was adjourned until the jury returned. When the jury returned the court was called to order and the verdict read. It was that the Government of Cottage Row should pay the firm of Ellwood and Hill the sum of sixty cents. The Judge then added that the Government should pay the court expenses, which were fifty cents, the attorney's fees, as no witness fees are charged. The plaintiff's attorney received twenty cents and the defendant's attorneys fifteen cents apiece. The Judge then adjourned the Court, it being 10.15 P. M. C. Alfred H. Malm.

Unloading the Scow

One night Mr. Bradley called for some boys to unload the scow. There were about twelve chosen out of the number that volunteered. The scow was loaded with lumber, lime and cement. The lime and cement were taken off first. Some of the boys got onto the scow and rolled the barrels up on a pair of skids onto the wharf, where others were ready to take them to where they were being put. The barrels were put on boards on the side of the wharf. In taking off the lumber, two boys went together. One boy would take one end of the piece and the other boy the other end. The two boys that were piling received the lumber from the boys that were carrying and piled it evenly. When we had about half of the lumber taken off, we struck some laths. Some of the boys put the laths on the other boys' shoulders and they took them to where they were being piled. Edward L. Davis.

Thompson's Island Beacon

Printed Monthly by the Boys of the

FARM SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor.

A PRIVATE HOME-TRAINING SCHOOL
DEPENDENT UPON DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS.

Vol. 4, No. 8. December 1900.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE 50 cents per year.

Entered at the Post Office at Boston as second class matter.

BOARD OF MANAGERS

PRESIDENT
RICHARD M. SALTONSTALL

VICE-PRESIDENT
EBEN BACON

TREASURER
ARTHUR ADAMS

SECRETARY
TUCKER DALAND

MANAGERS
MELVIN O. ADAMS
ALFRED BOWDITCH
I. TUCKER BURR, JR.
CHARLES P. CURTIS, JR.
CHARLES T. GALLAGHER
HENRY S. GREW
JOSHUA B. HOLDEN, JR.
JOHN HOMANS, 2d, M.D.
WALTER HUNNEWELL
FRANCIS SHAW
THOMAS F. TEMPLE

CHARLES H. BRADLEY Superintendent

It is a Farm School custom on the day before Thanksgiving for every boy to write out what he considers are the particular reasons for his being thankful.

Most of us bear our blessings with too much equanimity, and even think ourselves praiseworthy if we refrain from bemoaning our misfortunes. We should remember we owe it both to God and our fellows to mention the gift and thank the giver. And to him who does this is a greater happiness given, than that of mere getting. Not one of us can live a solitary life; at all times and in all things we come in contact with others. Nothing more acts to promote good fellowship in this daily intercourse with others than thankfulness.

Following are a few articles on this subject selected from each class:—

FIRST CLASS. I am thankful that Thanksgiving Day has been changed to a day of feast instead of fast. I am thankful that we have holidays like Christmas, Thanksgiving Day and Independence Day. We have had no serious sickness in the School. I am thankful that we have such a good library and so many papers in the reading room. That Mr. Kenfield got into the Symphony Orchestra. That so many graduates are doing well and come here so often. I am thankful that we are going to have some new schoolrooms. That we have steam heat now, and the shower bath. I am thankful that the Cubans came here. I am thankful that McKinley was elected.

GEORGE THOMAS.

I am thankful I have a good home, that I get my clothing free and for the good dinners we get on Thanksgiving Days, and that we lived all through winter. I am thankful we have such a good Board of Managers. I am thankful that God has watched over me all these years, and that my sister is well cared for. I am thankful I can have a chance to show what the School and Mr. Bradley have made of me since I have been here. I am thankful that Mr. Bradley took me to see the Harvard football game, and for the Nation we have. I am thankful that God has watched over our President of the United States. SAMUEL W. WEBBER.

SECOND CLASS. I am thankful for the following things. First. For the many new improvements which the School has received during the past year and for the care and thought which has been shown in selecting them. Second. For the work of the Managers of the School in giving their time,

money and care for the benefit of those who are in need of help. Third. For the many entertainments we have had and for the kindness of those who gave them to us. Fourth. For the opportunity I have had to learn a trade which I could not have had, if I had not come to the School. CHARLES W. RUSSELL.

I am thankful that some of our friends and I have had good health. That most of our graduates are making a success. I am thankful that Mr. Bradley lets foot-ball teams come down and play against our team, and for the interest the Managers and instructors take in us. I am thankful that a day comes for us to give thanks to God for his works. I am thankful for the repairs and the steam heat and the new pets and that we have scenery for entertainments. That we have an engine to run the lathes and press. I am thankful for the strength and health restored to Frank Wilcox.

JOHN W. ROBBLEE.

I am thankful that we had such a large harvest. I am thankful for all the School has done for me since I have here. I have learned more in school, learned how to play in the band, how to typewrite and a good many other things. I am thankful that I could visit my friends, and also go to the Brockton fair. I am thankful the School have so many successful graduates, which has often added greatly our pleasure. I am thankful that the School could go to Forepaughs' Circus.

CHARLES F. SPEAR.

I am thankful that God has preserved my friends' lives another year. I am thankful that I am in the second class. I am thankful that the boys are to enjoy such a fine dinner to-morrow and an entertainment in the evening. I am thankful that new schoolrooms are being built for the boys' benefit. I am thankful that my finger which was cut off healed so quickly.

HAROLD S. TAYLOR.

THIRD CLASS. I am thankful for the welfare of my friends. I am thankful that the tower is built and the new schoolrooms are being built. I am thankful that I am in sloyd and that Mr. Littlefield has helped me on in sloyd. I am thankful that I have my Geography learned. I am thankful William McKinley is elected President of the United States of America. I am thankful that we have kind instructors. I am thankful our country has so many inhabitants.

RALPH HOLMES.

I am thankful that the country of the United States has long been a country to hold such Thanksgivings as these.

JOHN TIERNEY.

In the first place I am thankful that my friends are alive and well. I am thankful that I have a sister-in-law; for all pleasant times that I have had since last Thanksgiving. I am thankful that I am going to have a pleasant day to-morrow and that I saw Forepaughs' Circus, even if I did not see Buffalo Bill's Circus. I am thankful that I am going to be an elocutionist some day. GEORGE E. HICKS.

I am thankful that I have lived a year since last Thanksgiving. I am thankful that I had a good time last Fourth of July. I am thankful that I got a bundle last Christmas. I am thankful our side won in the rugby game on Nov. 24. I am thankful that we have got a good superintendent. I am thankful that we have got a good steam heater. I am thankful that the Cuban teachers came down here to see how things looked. I am thankful that I am a boy. ANDREW W. DEAN.

I am thankful that Thanksgiving has come, as it is always a day for giving thanks and praise and also for the fine food that we have. I am thankful that I have warm clothes to wear and good food to eat. I am thankful the furnaces have been taken away and steam pipes and radiators are being used. I am thankful that the edges of the Island have been fixed so that nothing can take our lives from us. I am thankful that there is a school for me to go where I may learn about the world.

CHESTER F. WELCH.

I am thankful that there are some steam pipes in the shed so that we can keep warmer this winte than we did last. I am thankful that our geography dictation is not any longer

than it is, and that we are learning it about Europe and not some other continent that has harder names to remember. I am thankful that we have a reading-room with some good papers and encyclopedias in it and that we can go up there to read them. I am thankful that we have six Visiting Days every year, and that my mother came to see me the last one. I am thankful that I didn't freeze my feet or hands last winter when I was working on the farm. CLARENCE DEMAR.

FOURTH CLASS. I am thankful that I am well off in the world and I wish that there were more. I am thankful that I have a good loving mother. I am thankful that I go to school and get along pretty well. I am thankful that I am growing up with a good influence. I am thankful that I get good food to eat and clothes to wear, and that is what every boy does not get. I am thankful that I have a good teacher.

GEORGE I. LEIGHTON.

I am thankful for the clothes I have got and for the turkey tomorrow. And for what we get to eat. I am thankful that I have got a mother and that she has a home. I am thankful that I can put my hands in hot water and not in cold. I am thankful I have got a good teacher, and I am thankful that I got promoted this last year. I am glad I know how to darn stockings. I am thankful that I can read, write and spell.

FRANK E. WELCH.

FIFTH CLASS. I am thankful that I have a good teacher and mother. I am thankful for the nice dinners we get. I am thankful for our sleep, and good schooling. I am thankful that I have good health and strength. I am thankful that we have such good milk.

HARRY M. CHASE.

SIXTH CLASS. I am thankful that we have a good lot of foot-ball. I am thankful that I have a good teacher, Miss Winslow. I am thankful that so many graduates come down here. I am thankful that we are going to have steam heat. JAMES CLIFFORD.

We are all thankful for this holiday. We all have heard about the Pilgrims; they were the ones who had the first Thanksgiving. So let us feel thankful for all the food we have Thanksgiving, and be thankful for the teachers we have, and for the happy hours we have spent here. WESTON ESAU.

Notes

Nov. 1. Meeting of Company X.

Finished repairing door and window screens ready to be put away.

Nov. 3. Mr. Bradley, Mr. Wardwell and a squad of boys attended the Harvard-Pennsylvania foot ball game at Cambridge.

Torchlight procession and political rally by the boys.

Nov. 5. Tore out the old brick oven in the Instructors' dining room.

Nov. 6. A heavy frost, the first this season.

Result of voting among the boys; McKinley 88; Bryan 8; four cast no vote.

Nov. 7. The rugby team was weighed; Average weight 134 pounds.

Floats from the South Boston Yacht Club stored at the south end of our Island.

Nov. 10. Two sheep and five geese received from Mr. Francis S. Child, superintendent of the Upland Farm and Industrial School at Holliston, Mass.

Boys put on their winter suits.

Nov. 12. Received a package of literature from Mrs. Jordan of Andover.

The Columbian Dredging Co. began dredging a channel and berth for our steamer at the Public Landing, South Boston.

Thomas Brown spent the night at the School.

Nov. 13. Jacob Capaul entered the School.

A scow load of freight towed from City Point.

A box of literature received from Mrs. Meade of Concord Junction.

Nov. 14. Finished brick work in the new tower.

Nov. 15. Bouquet of pansies picked from the boys' gardens.

First snowstorm.

Annual invoice of flour received.

Nov. 16. A package of books for Cottage Row received from Mr. Charles Heald.

Nov. 17. William G. Cummings visited the School.

A game of rugby played between the first and second eleven.

Nov. 19. Joseph A. Carr went to East Westmoreland, N. H., to work for graduate Sumner W. Parker.

A book, "Friends and Helpers," received from the author, Sarah J. Eddy.

Nov. 21. A box of clothing received from Mrs. J. J. Borland.

The wash room furnace taken down.

Nov. 23. A roofer began work on the dormer windows and in such places as the new alterations made necessary.

Nov. 24. Steam heat on for the first time.

A game of foot ball played with the Trinity team of Melrose, in which our fellows won by a score of 21 to 6.

Nov. 28. Boys' dining room furnace taken out.

Treasurer, Mr. Arthur Adams visited the School.

Nov. 29. Thanksgiving Day. Eighty-six graduates were here, including four with their wives and children and three with their sisters who took part in the drama which was presented in the evening.

Game of foot ball at 3 P. M. between the Alumni and home team, the former winning by a score of 17 to 0.

The graduates furnished an entertainment in the evening which was much enjoyed.

We are indebted to the Oak Grove Farm Co. for twelve gallons of ice cream.

A collection of band music received from graduate Charles A. Lind.

Farm School Bank

Cash on hand Nov. 1st, 1900,	$331.78
Deposited during the month,	10.66
	$342.44
Withdrawn during the month,	33.00
Balance Dec. 1st, 1900,	$309.44

Building the School-rooms

Mr. Bradley thought it would be better to have the second school room larger and have the first school room in the upper playroom. The brick wall in the campus tool-room was torn down and the plaster taken off the upper end of the school room. After the plaster was taken off we began to put up the ties, one to each three by four. Then we began putting on the furring for the laths. As the floor was not even it had to be torn up. After we had this done it could be seen that the floor timbers did not line up. As they were not very stout and were uneven they were taken out and new ones put in their stead. Instead of running them like the ones in the upper playroom, a header was put up and the floor timbers were set in this at one end and put in the wall at the other end. The bottom floor of hemlock was nailed on and is all ready for the hard pine floor which will be laid after the room has been plastered. Most all the ties have been put in the upper playroom. The slate has been taken off and the roof boards will be also, so the dormer windows can be put in. The top floor is to be taken off the upper playroom and a new hard pine floor put down. This arrangement will be a great improvement.

DANA CURRIER.

Cleaning Tubes

We haul the steamer around to the end of the wharf where the wind can't blow the soot onto the wharf, but overboard. There are two hundred and forty-eight tubes in the boiler that we have to clean. It takes us from twenty-five to thirty minutes to clean them. The tube cleaner is a piece of iron pipe with a wooden handle. A piece of two-inch hose is fastened to one end of the pipe and then the other end of the hose is fastened to the valve on the boiler by a coupling. The other end of the pipe is inserted in the tubes. The steam from the boiler goes down through the hose into the iron pipe and then out around a little cap which is fastened onto the end of the pipe and blows the soot up through the tubes out of the stack.

HOWARD L. HINCKLEY.

Alumni

ANDREW J. AGNEW, '69, upon leaving the School entered the machine shop of R. W. Pratt, Haverhill St., Boston, where he remained three years. In 1872 he took up the electrotyping business, and has followed it since, and is now in the employ of H. C. Whitcomb & Co., 42 Arch St. With his wife and daughter he lives at 1280 Dorchester Ave.

WALTER MCKEEVER, '95, spent the summer season back at his old home in New Hampshire, but has recently been engaged as an attendant at the State Epileptic Hospital, Palmer, Mass., where his brother James has been for so long a time.

HENRY F. MCKENZIE, '99, gives a good account of himself in a letter of recent date. He says; "Last term finished up one year of school and I can assure you I liked it very much. My report for last term was as follows,— French 99.2, Algebra 96, English 97, Spelling 98, Deportment 100. This is the best rank received by any boy in my class." You will remember that Henry is attending High School in Topsham, Maine.

Graduates Here Thanksgiving

Agnew, Andrew J.
Austin, Arthur
Austin, Ernest W.
Bartlett, Charles B.
Bete, John E.
Buettner, Louis E.
Bryant, Frank G.
Blanton, Robert
Brown, Thomas
Butler, Samuel F.
Balentine, Herbert E.
Buchan, George
Bridgham, Charles H.
Cullington, Alfred L.
Colby, Horatio A.
Colson, Charles E.
Cummings, William G.
Crowell, Carl E.
Clattenburg, Ernest E.
Hefler, Alden B.
Horsfall, William A.
Irving, John J.
Leonard, Harry H.
Loud, Clarence W.
Mayott, George
Meader, Frank A.
Mathews, Charles W.
Nilson, Nils G.
Pulson, Herbert A.
Pulson, Clifford M.
Pratt, Albert E.
Peabody, William I.
Peterson, John F.
Powers, Joseph M.
Pedgrift, William J.
Palmer, Chester, A.
Palmer, Edward
Roberts, William M.
Carr, Joseph A.
Carr, William C.
Dutton, Almond H.
Dixon, Royal E.
Donovan, Daniel D.
Decis, Leo T.
Ellis, Merton P.
Ellis, Howard B.
English, Harry A.
Estes, Clarence
French, Herbert W.
Fairbairn, Thomas J.
Frasier, Frederick N.
Gerry, Benjamin F.
Harris, Frank W.
Hart, Herbert A.
Hart, William D.
Roberts, Frank A.
Robinson, Joseph
Sargent, John S.
Steele, Algine B.
Smart, Joseph H.
Smart, Chester H.
Snow, William L.
Steinbrick, Edward
Spear, James H.
Tinkham, Selwyn G.
Tobey, Henry D.
Traill, Albert J.
Winters, William B.
Warren, William D.
Wood, Clarence W.
Whitaker, James A.
Whitaker, George O.
Wilson, Henry O.

Helping the Masons

In the afternoon two of us boys help the masons and in the morning two others do the same. Some days we have to get bricks in first because the masons are out of them, and if the mortar runs low we get some more. The hardest work is trying to start a hole with a chisel in the old brick wall so that we can make a square hole into the house where the addition is going to be built, to tie it to the main building. When the floor timbers are put in it is hard to get them the same distance apart. After they are down the masons lay bricks around them and they have to joint it off, that is to run an iron jointer between the bricks to joint the brick work. When it is time to get more bricks, John Powers gets them in a wheel barrow and takes them in the shed to the opening into the tower and tosses them up to me. I pile them up on the staging. The first thing in order to mix mortar, is to put some sand in the box and then a barrel of lime. The sand thickens it. More sand and half a barrel of Hoffman's cement are added. This is to make it stronger. Still more sand and some Portland cement are mixed and extra sand put in last. When we put the lime in, we put water in so as to make it look like lava.

WALTER D. NORWOOD.

Thompson's Island

Beacon

Vol. 4. No. 9. PRINTED AT THE FARM SCHOOL, BOSTON, MASS. January, 1901.

Christmas

For a long time before Christmas and with some boys, even before Thanksgiving, most of the boys had been spending their noon hours and Saturday play time in the shop, making paper knives, pen trays, napkin rings, book racks, and jewelry boxes. These they were preparing for Christmas presents to their relatives and friends. Some boys, the more advanced in sloyd work, made and sold many articles to the smaller boys and those less skillful in woodwork.

On the Sunday evening before Christmas, as is our custom, the Christmas concert was given in the Hall. It consisted of songs and carols by the choir, and recitations by the boys, appropriate to the season. The Hall was decorated with all sorts of winter greens. The front was filled with a small forest of spruce trees. Overhead and along the walls ropes of evergreen were festooned. Between windows and over pictures bunches of holly, laurel, and hemlock were massed. Directly above the speakers a large bell made of hemlock twigs was hung. Tinsel and colored glass balls completed the decorations.

For several days every returning boat brought a lot of bundles and there was much excitement over them, and speculation as to what was their contents. Those addressed to the boys were brought to the office, checked off, and then taken to the store room, where they remained until Christmas morning when they were taken into the Hall for distribution.

Christmas day was warm, not at all the weather that one expects the last part of December. We had hoped there would be skating or at any rate snow for coasting. But this did not make less our enjoyment of the day. At half past nine, the instructors and all the boys gathered in the Hall. Mr. Bradley read greetings from Manager Mr. Henry S. Grew, Henry W. Swift, Esq., the Reporter of the Supreme Court, and from a number of the graduates. Then came the presents. Mr. Bradley and Mr. Wardwell gave them out. As each boy's name was called he came forward and received his bundle and then returned to his seat and opened it to see what it contained. Every boy received a present of some kind from Mr. Bradley, such as a knife, sweater, harmonica, game, skates or a hockey stick. Also every one on the Island got a box containing candy, dates and figs. In addition to these, the bundles and boxes from the boys' friends were given out. In all there were one hundred and twenty of them, and they were of various shapes and sizes. It took over an hour and a half to give out all the presents. After the last boy had received gifts, we sat there awhile longer looking at each others new possessions, which was very enjoyable. At quarter past eleven we left the Hall to make preparations for dinner.

Dinner came at twelve. The dining room was decorated and so were the tables, to our eyes. The bill-of-fare was as follows: turkey, giblet gravy, cranberry sauce, onions, squash, potato, bread and butter, oranges and pop-corn balls.

After dinner those that had received hockey sticks started a game of hockey on the gravel. Using their presents was the principal amusement of most. It was a fine day.

WILLIAM AUSTIN.

The Parade and Rally

In October Arthur Fearing, one of our graduates, told Mr. Bradley that if we wanted to have a parade and rally he would furnish the campaign hats. Mr. Bradley told us about it in chapel one night, and we carried out the plan on the Saturday evening before election. About a third of the fellows said that they were Democrats, but there were only a few Bryan hats and so some had to take McKinley hats. All but five or six, who really were Democrats, were perfectly willing to have the McKinley hats, as they had gone in just to make things even. The Democrats lined up out by Gardner Hall and the Republicans by the Elm tree. Both parties marched down to the wharf, taking somewhat different routes. We came in contact down behind the stock barn and had a skirmish with pieces of pumpkins. As the Bryanites were the less in numbers, their jack-o-laterns got a little the worst of it. No one was hurt. The Democrats' bugler played taps for McKinley's death at the wharf. When we came up both sides lined up on the gravel, the Democrats by the gardens, and the Republicans down by the Elm tree. The Bryan leader asked them, "What's the matter with McKinley?" They answered, "He's N–G." Then the leader asked them, "Who's N–G?" The answer was, "McKinley!" Another yell was, "Hooperty. Hoop, McKinley and Roosevelt are in the soup! Rah! Rah! Rah!" The Republicans had the same only they changed it for the occasion. Then we went to the school-room to make our speeches. William Austin was the one we chose for our Moderator. The Republicans chose for their leader Alfred Malm. After a little discussion it was decided that as the Republicans had the largest side they should speak first. Malm called on a few of his party, but as no one had anything to say, he took the floor himself and gave the best speech that anyone gave that evening. The Democrats were then called upon. Dana Currier, our leader, said that our most prominent speaker, Mr. Bryan, for some reason or other, could not be present. He then called upon different fellows. Each side had four or five times to speak. We got off from the real issue once. A Republican said that some of the Democrats were swindlers, because he had bought a ruler from one of them and was charged twenty cents for it, when it was only worth fifteen cents. When the Bryanites had their turn to speak, one said that this was a sign the Democrats had an eye for business. When we were all through Alfred Malm had his side give three cheers for McKinley, and as the Bryanites were mostly McKinleyites their leader had them give three cheers for McKinley also. The meeting was adjourned about 9.15 o'clock. The next Tuesday night we voted and the result was Bryan got eight votes and McKinley eighty-eight.

CLARENCE DEMAR.

Washing Radiators

One morning after the men put the radiators in, I took a pail of hot water and washed them with soap. I had to get into all the cracks so as to get them clean. When I washed them the paint would come off and make my cloth all yellow. A few days later the men came and gilded them, so it makes them look very nice.

C. JAMES PRATT.

To be glad of life, because it gives you the chance to work and to play and to look up at the stars; to be satisfied with your possessions, but not contented with yourself until you have made the best of them; to despise nothing in the world except falsehood and meanness, and to fear nothing except cowardice; to be governed by your admirations rather than by your disgusts; to covet nothing that is your neighbor's except his kindness of heart and gentleness of manners; to think seldom of your enemies, often of your friends, and every day of Christ; and to spend as much time as you can, with body and with spirit, in God's out-of-doors.——these are little guide-posts and the foot-path to peace.

HENRY VAN DYKE.

Washing Blankets

On the mornings when we can wash blankets one or two boys go up to the dormitory and get from ten to twenty-five blankets. When they are brought down, two boys take a basket of them outdoors and shake them to get out the dust. The blankets are washed in two soapy waters. One boy will take a blanket and wash it in the first water, then he and the boy who washes it in the second water wring it out by hand into the second water. After it has been washed in the second water, it is wrung out and put in a basket. After three blankets have been washed in this way, they are rinsed in three warm waters. being wrung into each water with the wringer. After they have been through three waters, they are wrung three times with the wringer and are put out on the lines to dry. Sometimes they do not get dry and have to be dried in the laundry. EDWARD L. DAVIS.

Writing Days

Every boy that goes to school, morning or afternoon, writes a letter on an appointed day called writting day. Some boys write on Sundays and other days, but others combine all that has happened from one writing day to another and of course write a much longer letter. When we want to know anything about our letter we ask our teacher, who is willing to help us. We learn to head them properly, pay attention to the margins and paragraphs and get the form just right. The fifteenth of every month is the customary day and our regular school work is given up to letter writing. Sometimes it comes on Saturday; then we either have it the day before or the next school day. The writing days begin when the Visiting Days leave off, generally in October, and end in April. Every boy is glad for writing day to come because he can have two and a half hours to spend in writing. DANIEL W. MURRAY.

Drilling Holes

In order to put in the new heating arrangement, we had to make an opening through the granite foundation under the boys' dining room. A boy drilled holes down under one of the dining room windows and they were not drilled straight, so I had to drill them over again. I was shown how to slant my drill in order to make it straight. Sometimes I would let the hammer drive and it would hit my fingers. After the holes were drilled the rock had to be split off. To split off the rock there are small wedges made for the purpose. One of the wedges is put in the hole and two pieces of iron are driven in, one on each side. The pieces have a little curve on one end. The wedge is then driven in hard and the rock splits off. Sometimes the rock is cracked and splits unevenly. FREDERICK L. WALKER.

Fixing Screens

When the screens were taken off this year, there were quite a number that needed repairing. I went all over the house and took every screen I could find. If the instructor who occupied the room wanted to keep his I left them. I took the screens to the shop and tagged every one, telling where they belonged. I then looked them over and put new screen on those that needed it and repaired anything that was broken about them. They were then black varnished and walnut stained and put away in the west loft. JOHN J. CONKLIN.

Setting Tables

When we finish our scrubbing in the morning we wash and set our tables. Six plates are put at each monitor's place, which is at the head of the table, and six mugs are put on the left-hand side of the water-server's place, which is at the foot of the table. At each boy's place a knife, fork and napkin are placed every day except some days when a spoon is put in the place of knife and fork. Some boys have a knife, fork and spoon of their own. As many sets of table spoons as are needed to serve the dinner with are put at the monitor's place. Each table has salt and vinegar on it, the vinegar bottles being set on small plates so that they will not soil the table-cloth. Some tables have salt and pepper shakers of their own Small extra dishes are served, six at each table when they are needed.

CHARLES A. TAYLOR.

Thompson's Island Beacon

Printed Monthly by the Boys of the

FARM SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor.

A PRIVATE HOME-TRAINING SCHOOL
DEPENDENT UPON DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS.

Vol. 4, No. 9. January 1901.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE 50 cents per year.

Entered at the Post Office at Boston as second class matter.

BOARD OF MANAGERS

PRESIDENT
RICHARD M. SALTONSTALL

VICE-PRESIDENT
EBEN BACON

TREASURER
ARTHUR ADAMS

SECRETARY
TUCKER DALAND

MANAGERS
MELVIN O. ADAMS
ALFRED BOWDITCH
I. TUCKER BURR, JR.
CHARLES P. CURTIS, JR.
CHARLES T. GALLAGHER
HENRY S. GREW
JOSHUA B. HOLDEN, JR.
JOHN HOMANS, 2d, M.D.
WALTER HUNNEWELL
FRANCIS SHAW
THOMAS F. TEMPLE

CHARLES H. BRADLEY Superintendent

New Year's Greetings

On the threshold of a new century the BEACON wishes to all its readers a Happy New Year. The hundred years just past have witnessed many wonderful changes in all departments of human activity; but there is a custom still flourishing which we hope will never be supplanted nor abandoned. It is this very custom we are helping to perpetuate at the present moment, that of wishing for our fellow men a Happy New Year. The custom is such a generous one! We recognize in it that hope which "springs eternal in the human breast," and as we look out over the prospect at the beginning of each new year, we take fresh heart and courage.

We recognize, too, the commonalty of experience by wishing for our friends and neighbors what we hope for ourselves, that the New Year will be a happy one. It is at such a time that the misanthrope and pessimist receive a rebuke. All the more selfish qualities of our nature must step into the background and allow our nobility and generosity to speak.

This does not mean that we wish the same lot or experience for all, because that would not be possible nor best. But we do wish the plans of others to prosper as well as our own, and that the sum total of happiness in the world may be increased indefinitely.

The new year and the new century lie before us. What they will bring forth no one can tell, but it is certain that we shall have influence in determining what that may be. We all share the expectancy and hopefulness of life at such a season as this, and the seriousness and responsibility of life ought to appeal to us, too. As we make our plans for the future we may well ask ourselves whether they are such as will commend themselves to us on the whole and in the long run. If so, we are being true to our higher nature, and we may ask God's blessing upon them. As we continue our ancient and pleasant custom of wishing others a Happy New Year, let us not forget this fact that it lies in our power to help make it so.

W. M. Macnair.

Notes

Dec. 1. Steam fitters finished work.

Took down the gaff on the main flagstaff and housed the topmast.

Dec. 3. The fascinating book, "Bushy" given to the library by the author, Mrs. Cynthia Westover Alden.

Dec. 4. A fierce gale from the East broke through the east dike.

Dec. 5. The instructors furnished an entertainment in the evening.

A complete set of the Waverly Novels given to the library by Manager, Mr. Henry S. Grew.

Dec. 6. Replaced the gang plank at our landing at City Point which the storm tore away and placed buoys to mark the channel.

Dec. 7. Joseph A. Carr returned to the School.

Dec. 8. The bell placed on the new tower and rung at noon for the first time since October first.

Dec. 9. Sunday. Mr. A. T. Eddy addressed the boys at 3 P. M.

Dec. 11. William N. Dinsmore entered the School.

Dec. 13. Manager Mr. Francis Shaw and Mr. Joseph C. Grew visited the School.

Entertainment in the evening by Archie Leon French, ventriloquist.

Dec. 14. Graduate, Howard B. Ellis came with one of Thomas J. Hinds' men to finish the more particular parts of the new roof.

Dec. 15. Graduate, Horace F. Edmands visited the School.

Graduate, William I. Peabody, agent for the Kitson Lighting Co., placed a light on the campus for trial.

Dec. 18. Good skating.

Graduate L. F. Vinto passed the night at the School.

Dec. 20. Graduate Edgar Johnston called.

Dec. 21. Winter term of school closed.

Dec. 22. Decorated the boys' dining room and assembly room.

Dec. 23. A large delegation of instructors and boys attended church in town.

The Pilgrim blew out a nipple in the main steam pipe and was taken around to Lawley's for repairs.

The people returned from church, by courtesy of the Harbor Master, in the "Watchman."

Christmas concert in the evening.

Dec. 24. Pilgrim returned from Lawley's.

Graduate, Walter L. Carpenter spent the night at the School.

We are indebted to Sturtevant & Haley, Beef & Supply Co., for a fine lot of turkeys for the boys' Christmas dinner. Also to Mrs. Henry Wardwell of Salem, for a generous supply of popcorn balls.

Dec. 25. Christmas. New flag haliards put up.

Distribution of presents at 10.30 A. M.

Two books for the library received from Mrs. A. T. Brown.

Dec. 26. John J. Powers left the School to live with graduate, Sumner W. Parker of E. Westmoreland, N. H.

New tube with fusible plug put in the steamers boiler.

Book, "Musket and Sword" presented to the library by Mr. D. L. Jones and Reminiscences of the War by Returned Heroes" from Mr. Henry H. Bowditch.

Dec. 27. Cottage Row caucus held.

Dec. 28. Several boys went to Keith's.

Graduate, Charles B. Bartlett visited the School and passed the night.

Dec. 29. A squad of boys attended the Sportsman's Show with Mr. Chamberlin.

Dec. 30. A delegation of instructors and boys attended church in town.

Farm School Bank

Cash on hand Dec. 1st, 1900,	$309.44
Deposited during the month,	25.99
	$335.43
Withdrawn during the month,	14.37
Balance Jan. 1st, 1901.	$321.06

Christmas Concert Programme

Song — *Choir.*
HEAR THE BELLS OF HEAVEN
Recitation — *Alfred Lanagan.*
CHRISTMAS BELLS
Recitation — *Frederick P. Thayer.*
A CHRISTMAS CAROL
Song — *Choir.*
HERALDS OF THE KING
Exercise — *Class.*
HERALD ANGELS
Recitation — *Harris H. Todd.*
THE ROUND TABLE
Song — *Choir.*
THE STORY OF OLD
Recitation — *Frederick L. Walker.*
TOWARD BETHLEHEM
Recitation — *Ralph Holmes.*
WHEN IT SEEMS LIKE CHRISTMAS
Exercise — *Class.*
IF I WERE SANTA CLAUS
Song — *Choir.*
HARK, HOW THE ANGELS SING
Recitation — *Clarence DeMar.*
ST. SILVERUS: A CHRISTMAS LEGEND
Recitation — *Albert Hinckley.*
A SUGGESTION FOR SANTA CLAUS
Recitation — *James Clifford.*
POOR SANTA CLAUS
Song — *Choir.*
THIS IS THE MESSAGE
Recitation — *George A. C. McKenzie.*
SANTA CLAUS AS AN AUTHOR
Recitation — *George E. Hart.*
A PRESENT TO YOURSELF
Song — *Choir.*
CHRISTMAS GLADNESS
Exercise — *Class.*
THE HERALD STAR
Recitation — *Horace P. Thrasher.*
SANTA CLAUS IS COMING
Recitation — *Charles H. O'Conner.*
SHOE OR STOCKING?
Song — *Choir.*
LORD OF GRACE AND GLORY
Recitation — *George Thomas.*
DISCIPLESHIP
Recitation — *Willard H. Rowell.*
THE OLD CHRISTMAS TREE
Recitation — *Warren Holmes.*
A MANGER IS OUR THRONE
Song — *Choir.*
THE MERRY BELLS
Recitation — *Samuel W. Webber.*
O, LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM
Recitation — *George G. Noren.*
CHRISTMAS HYMN
Song — *Choir.*
LAURELS WE BRING

Getting in Flour

Several boys went over in our scow for a load of flour, starting at two o'clock in the afternoon from our wharf and returning again at five with one hundred and fifty barrels. The next morning the unloading commenced and by noon the scow was empty. Two teams the double and single horse were kept going. The flour was taken to the main building and piled up in tiers in one of the store rooms almost the whole height of the room which is about thirteen feet high. There were one hundred and forty-five barrels of bread flour and five barrels of pastry flour. We use some of the best flour made, called the Washburn & Crosby's Gold Medal Flour.

CHARLES HILL.

Working at the Farm House

Every morning at seven o'clock I go over to the farm house to make the watchman's bed. After I get his bed made I come back to the house and at nine or half past nine o'clock Mrs. Chamberlin and I go over again to make the workmen's and farmers' beds. We then sweep up the rooms and dust them. Some mornings I have to wash up the floors of the rooms. When we come back to the house we take back the lamps and dirty towels. Some mornings we take over clean towels and pillow cases and sheets. We usually light a fire to heat the water when we go over. Sometimes when there is a lot of work, another boy goes over to help us.

CHARLES W. JORGENSEN.

Mixing Mortar.

Since the masons have been here I have been working for them. My principal work is mixing mortar. We have a large bin which is about seven feet long and four feet wide. When we are to make a new batch of mortar we put sand all around the inside of the bin to prevent the water from running out. Then a barrel of lime is put in and considerable water. This is mixed up with a hoe till all the lumps are out, when quite a lot of sand is added. After this is well mixed some common cement is put in, and if we wish to have it hard Portland cement is used along with the common. When this is mixed some more sand is put in. It is then ready for use. As it is not used all at once, it naturally becomes hard in the bin. To prevent this a little water is put in and is left unmixed. At night sand is put in along with the water. In the morning it has to be tempered up; by this I mean it has to be pulled over with the hoe and mixed up in good shape.

GEORGE E. HART.

Molding Lead

One day when the plumbers were putting up the new shower bath one of them took out a lot of lead pipes. The pipes would take up too much room to be put away as they were, so Mr. Littlefield told me to make molds of lead. I went down to the shop cellar and brought up the molding sand and got it soft and just a little damp so that it would be just right for molding lead and then started a fire in the forge. When the fire was going all right I put some lead in the lead carrier which is used for melting lead and put it on the fire. I then put the pattern that the molds were going to look like into the molding sand and made the same shape in the sand. By that time the lead was beginning to melt, so I took the handle of the forge and blew the fire. When the lead was ready for melting I poured it into the moulding sand where the shape of the pattern was and let it cool off. I then put some more lead in the lead carrier and started the same process again.

AXEL E. RENQUIST.

Helping about the House

When the work was first begun in repairing the house there was plenty of work for the boys. Some of the boys, of medium size, cleaned mortar off bricks, which were to be used as second-hand, with the use of a chisel and hammer. Others helped to unload from the scow the lumber and bricks which were brought from the city; most all of our teams were used in bringing the lumber and bricks up to the house. There was some digging done at first; where the tower is being built it had to be dug down to five feet below the level. They have been digging a place for a new cellar also. There were some small boys who carried bricks to different places where they were kept until needed on the tower. The boys who are carpenters are working on the ceilings in the schoolrooms, sheds and around there a great deal doing such work as putting up laths and getting ready for the plastering to be done. There are a few boys who have it their regular work to help the masons; they make mortar, carry mortar and bricks to the places where the masons need them on the tower and help in as many places as they are useful.

FREDERICK P. THAYER.

Pumpkins and Squashes

Two months ago the pumpkins and squashes were brought in from the corn fields. At first they were just put in a large pile by the Corn Barn. After they were all brought in, a large iron screen pen was made about ten feet square and three feet high. As the pumpkins and squashes were put in, they were sorted, and the rotten ones were taken to the dump at south end. A little while later they were sorted again and a board flooring was put in the pen. When the pumkins and squashes were put back, the small yellow sweet pumpkins were put in one corner, the large yellow cow pumpkins in another, the cracked ones and small pumpkins in still another, and the large green ones in a fourth corner. The squashes were piled in the middle. Every night for the past week the cows have had six boxes of pumpkins cut up for them. DON C. CLARK.

Alumni

Allen Edward Doucette, '85, died on Wednesday, January 9, at his home in Cambridge. He had been sick for six weeks with typhoid-pneumonia. He was unmarried and made his home with his mother. Doucette was born September 15, 1871, at Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. The next year his parents moved with him to Dorchester. His father died and though his mother made great effort to keep him with her, she was unable to support and care for him. On September 9, 1880, he was admitted to the Farm School. He remained here five years, at the end of which time he was returned to his mother.

In a few years his natural abilities and fondness of study enabled him to enter Phillips Exeter Academy where he fitted for college. He entered Harvard in 1891. It was here that his strength of character and steadfastness of purpose were most strongly manifest. By tutoring and other outside work he earned enough to pay all his expenses. His devotion to athletics is well known. In foot-ball his great strength and weight, with his unusual quickness made him the best center Harvard has had. In track athletics he was good at the "hammer" and "shot". All this extra occupation, however, did not at all curtail his college work. He ranked high in scholarship, graduating in 1895 with honors. The power to accomplish these things marked Doucette as a man of great ability. To do one of them well, as he did, is a task for the ordinary man. He entered the Law School and graduated 1898. After being admitted to the bar, he entered the office of George Fred Williams, where he was when he was taken sick. He had made many friends and had worked up a considerable practise.

To us the shock of his death was made more by the fact that he had recently returned the draft of a new charter which he had prepared for Cottage Row. He had done this gladly and had spent much care and time on it, taking a graduate's interest in it. In other ways he had shown the generosity, which characterized him, and his regard for the School. Last fall he obtained for the boys, a number of tickets to the Havard-Pennsylvania foot-ball game. Every boy at the School knew Doucette by name. His life was one of earnest endeavor and hard work, of which he was just beginning to reap the fruits, when death ended his career. In his application papers for admission to the School, it is stated in regard to his character and disposition, that he was, "Good – no bad habits – bright, quick to learn – and – inteligent." These words were written when he was nine years old, but they could be fitly used to characterize his whole life. His life promised much and it is a great loss, not only to those who knew him, but to the whole community which later would have felt his influence, that such promise could not be fulfilled. What he did achieve must be a stimulus to ambitious boys. And it is a matter of pride to us that Doucette was a Farm School boy.

Horace F. Edmands, '95, visited us a short time ago. We were much pleased to see him again and hear of his doings. For the last two years he has been working in a cotton mill in Methuen, Mass., having been promoted and has oversight of ten girls. He attends evening school regularly and has an ambition to enter college, in the mean time is practising on his mandolin and guitar in hopes to be able to play enough to help him through. He enjoys his music having learned to play on a cornet here. Horace is a sensible young man and we wish him success in whatever he undertakes. He still has his home with Mr. J. Cleveland, his address being, 30 Phillips St., Methuen Mass.

Skinning Birds

One day Mr. Wardwell asked one of the boys to help him skin some sand peeps, that he had shot. They are a kind of birds that live on the beach. All of the boys asked if they could watch him and he said "Yes." He pulled the feathers off and then he pulled the skin off and cleaned the birds out. We all know how to do to now and once since then he gave us some to skin which was a very easy thing to do.

James A. Edson.

Thompson's Island

Beacon

Vol. 4. No. 10. PRINTED AT THE FARM SCHOOL, BOSTON, MASS. February, 1901.

Victoria Night

On Wednesday evening, January 30, a memorial was held in the Chapel in token of our respect for and in honor of the dead Queen. Also it was a good occasion to learn something about her and her reign. All the boys and instructors were present. The British and United States flags were hung side by side and draped over the main entrance. On the door was the official flag of Canada, the same as the British with the addition of their coat of arms in the lower right hand quarter. At the left of the entrance there was placed a large picture of the Queen on an easel.

The band started up by playing America. This was appropriate as the air is the same in the national hymn of England. Miss Strong read a poem by Tennyson in praise of the Queen. Ernest Curley then read a list of all the British possessions with their area and population, thus giving an idea of the size and extent of the British Empire. Alfred Malm told about the Queen's family. He started with the kings that preceded her and traced her relationship and line of descent; and then took up her own family. The dates of birth of each of her children were given; also who each married and their descendants. The Coronation was described by Charles Spear with an account of the ceremonies at Westminister Abbey, and those who where present and what costumes were worn. He told how the queen advanced to the altar, fell on her knees and received the crown. The moment the crown touched her head a cannon was fired. The Queen left the Abbey wearing her robe, crown and carrying a scepter. John T. Lundquist spoke of what the Queen has seen during her reign, such events as the first Atlantic steamship, the telegraph, and the great development and expansion of railroads over the world.

The different wars of England during her reign were told by Clarence DeMar and in this connection, the "Charge of the Light Brigade" by Tennyson was read by George Hicks; and the "Relief of Lucknow" by Lowell was read by Warren Holmes. Mr. Bradley spoke about the relations between the United States and England in late years, especially during the Spanish War when it was a question how England would feel toward the United States on account of our warring with Spain, but it did not take long to find out that her sympathy was with us. George Hart enumerated and described the various castles that the Queen used as residences, among them Balmoral, Windsor and Osborne. Dana Currier told of the powers and limitations of the sovereign, as to what could be done with or without the consent of Parliament. A chronology of the Queen's reign begining with the first day of her reign and ending with the day of her death was given by William Ellwood. Frogmore, the mausoleum where her husband is buried and in which she also will lie was described by William Austin. Other pieces were, "The Seven Edwards," John Barr; "Eminent Statesmen," George Thomas; "Contemporaneous Rulers and Events," Harold Taylor.

An original poem appropriate to the occasion read by Frank C. Simpson which is on the last page was the last number on the programme.

FREDERICK HILL.

The Six-o'Clockers

One night Mr. Chamberlin told all the boys whose numbers were above sixty to report to the first school room. Mr. Bradley came in and named the boys who were to go to the back seats. He told those boys that they were to be seven o'clockers and the rest six o'clockers. Mr. Wardwell took a list of the six o'clockers' names on paper so he would know who they were. One of the larger boys has care of the six o'clockers for a week and then another takes his place the next week. Samuel Webber had care the first week. By six o'clockers I mean those who come up to the Chapel from the dining room after supper, and do not go out again.

CHARLES H. O'CONNER.

Skating

Skating has come again. Most every one of us have skates, and make good use of them. Our favorite ice pond has frozen solid and pretty smooth. Hockey is the favorite game and many of us play that, to keep ourselves warm. Hockey sticks are very scarce now-a-days, so we take clubs of wood. The skating is done by grades, the first grade every day, second every other, the third once a week, and the fourth doesn't go at all. Many falls occur, but what harm do they do? They only make our determination for skating the stronger. Most of us can skate fairly well, but not any too good, so that is why we try so hard to learn.

CHARLES HILL.

Playing Tag

Morning playtime, the boys like to play tag in the gymnasium on the horizontal ladder. It starts when a boy goes around and gets a few others and then still others join in. The boys like to play tag on the beams, but are not allowed to. Cross tag, spot tag, and other kinds are played, also tag on the ice. Cross tag is different from plain tag, in that when one boy is chasing another and a boy runs between them, then the latter gets chased, the crossing is kept up until someone is caught. Spot tag is played by a boy with a bunch of cloth or something else and the one whom he hits is "it."

WILLARD H. ROWELL.

Cut Feed

Dec. 1, we began to cut feed for the animals. Mr. McLeod brought Dan, one of our horses, up and drove him into the machine where he keeps walking for some time. This makes the machine under him go. The machine that the horse is in has a large wheel which has a belt attached to it and turns around like sixty. We need five to cut feed, four boys and one horse. One boy throws the cornstalks out near the machine and another boy gives it to the man that pushes it into the mouth of the machine. There is a pile of hay near the machine that is put in with the cornstalks. There is another boy that takes the feed and pushes it down the trap into a pen below.

RALPH O. ANDERSON.

Waxing Halls

Among the different jobs I have as painter is waxing halls. On rainy afternoons I have to wax Miss Galer's or Miss Brewster's halls, but this does not always come on a rainy day. I am told when they want their halls waxed. I get my wax and put it on the floors with a cloth then let it stay for half an hour before I touch them with a weight brush. While I am waiting for the half hour to pass, I go out to the shop and do something to keep me busy. Then I come back and go over the halls with the weight brush, first without a cloth, and then with a cloth to put a polish on.

JOSEPH E. K. ROBBLEE.

Helping the Slaters

For several weeks there were two slaters here, repairing the roofs and slating the tower. I was taken from the farm to help them in the afternoon and another boy was taken from the kitchen in the morning. We carried up the different sizes of slates to them as they wanted it, held their chalk lines and ran errands for them. They first slated the new dormer windows and around them on our new schoolroom and then they went over the other roofs inspecting them and putting on slates where there was one broken and zinc where there was a piece blown off. Then when the carpenters had finished the tower roof, they slated that.

DON C. CLARK.

Books I Have Read

My first book was "Ben's Nugget." I found it very interesting because it told about a boy's fortune and how he made it. There are other books I have read which are similar. They are written on the same plan, but having different heroes and different heroic acts. Among them are, "The Buried Treasure," "The Boy Trapper" and "The Mail Carrier." All these are written by the same author, Harry Castlemon. "Red skin and Cowboy," "In Times of Peril," "Through the Fray" and "The White Company," are very nice books. I like the last one mentioned because it tells about physical strength and about a person bragging about his strength. He gets a beating, though, by one who does not brag. The Lake Shore Series are very nice. I think "The Scottish Chiefs" is the best book I ever read. One thing that I didn't like at first in it was an iron box that was given to Wallace, the hero. I found on the last page when I got there that it was the crown of Scotland which Robert Bruce wore after the war.

RALPH HOLMES.

Our Stuffed Birds

As there is quite a number of birds on our Island, we like to keep some of the rarest kind to be stuffed. Sometimes we find them dead and if it is a kind we do not see very often we take it up to the office and generally Mr. Bradley sends it to Hyde Park to be stuffed. Sometimes Mr. Bradley shoots birds like the hawks and the common blackbird of the land, and of the water, he shoots plovers, ring necks, sandpipers, black ducks and cranes. We do not always know the name of them before we send them away but they always come back with a name on a tag tied to their neck. A while ago there was a cuckoo found over to the farmhouse dead. He was sent away to be stuffed. He is a very pretty bird and is about the size of a robin. In our collection among other birds we have got one crane, two hawks, one red-winged blackbird, two plovers, one falcon, an English crossbeak, two sandpipers, two ring necks, one cuckoo and an owl.

CHARLES F. SPEAR.

Some of our Animals

We have two sheep. They are short and have lots of thick wool on their bodies to keep them warm. They are kept in the stock barn near cows and horses in a box stall with straw and hay in it so they can lie down comfortably. They have a box where raw potatoes and shorts are put for them to eat. The sheep say "Baa! Baa!" One of them is a ram. The boys feed them every morning. There are twenty-eight cows down here; one is named Freikie; one Dutchie; and another Mountain Cow. The boys clean the stalls out morning and afternoon, and brush the cows' backs with a brush. They also clean the trough where they put the fresh hay and shorts for them to eat. In winter the cows have beets that the boys cut up and bring to the barn and put them into the troughs. The cows in summer go to pasture, and two boys take care of them, so they won't get into the marshes and into the garden and eat anything that will hurt them. We have five horses, Jim, Frank, Dollie, Captain and Dan. Captain is the carriage horse, and he is a good horse, and a good saddle horse, too. Jim, Frank, Dollie and Dan are mostly used for teaming. We have geese too; they are white. They go down to the skating-pond when it isn't frozen, and waddle around and quack, and swim. They are very fat and have a pretty coat of feathers

LESLIE R. JONES.

Barn Work

Another boy and I mind the cows. They don't go out to pasture now because it is too cold, so I help the barn fellow. I put the hay the cows have knocked out back into the manger to let them eat it. After they have eaten it I sweep the mangers and clean the cows. They are then let out into the barn-yard which is fenced in, to water till we have the barn ready for them. When they are in the yard we clean the gutters, sweep the stand and the floor, shake the bedding for the heifers and bull. We water the heifers before the bull. The first time I watered the bull I was afraid of him, as he is a monster of a fellow. His name is "Starlight Selectus."

CLARENCE TAYLOR.

Thompson's Island Beacon

Printed Monthly by the Boys of the

FARM SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor.

A PRIVATE HOME-TRAINING SCHOOL
DEPENDENT UPON DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS.

Vol. 4, No. 10. February 1901.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE 50 cents per year.

Entered at the Post Office at Boston as second class matter.

BOARD OF MANAGERS

PRESIDENT
RICHARD M. SALTONSTALL

VICE-PRESIDENT
EBEN BACON

TREASURER
ARTHUR ADAMS

SECRETARY
TUCKER DALAND

MANAGERS
MELVIN O. ADAMS
ALFRED BOWDITCH
I. TUCKER BURR, JR.
CHARLES P. CURTIS, JR.
CHARLES T. GALLAGHER
HENRY S. GREW
JOSHUA B. HOLDEN, JR.
JOHN HOMANS, 2d, M.D.
WALTER HUNNEWELL
FRANCIS SHAW
THOMAS F. TEMPLE

CHARLES H. BRADLEY Superintendent

Man does not live alone. Each one of us is compelled to turn at all times to others who have what we do not possess, in the way of food, clothing and the many necessities that we require. This is possible through the fact that the average man, working at his particular trade or profession, produces more of a commodity than he consumes. The surplus is then exchanged for the extra produce of others who have made different things. This condition of things, that allows us to take advantage of the labor of others, and mutually help them in return, makes civilization possible, in that, through doing but one thing, a man gains skill, and so can do the work more quickly and has more time to devote to art, science and learning. No people can do much more than exist where the individual attempts to fill every one of his own wants. Progress is impossible and even comfort is difficult. Even Robinson Crusoe did not make everything; his tools and most useful possessions he saved from the ship. He was personally alone but his fellow-men helped him and were represented by their handiwork.

The more we get the more we owe and have to pay. Our benefits are greater than ever before and many things are more commonly gotten in life, that were in past times even unknown. At the same time the price that is asked grows larger. Every one must work in the way fixed either by inclination or by chance, and the work has to be good and the worker must not fail, for he is a part, and if he falls out or falters, the whole line will lose step, and through the fault of one, a large number will be hindered. The neglect of one will not only spoil the final product, but also will harm the fellow-workman. The harder part is that the workman must not lose his individuality but shall be prepared broadly as well as in his own particular line. The lack of this preparation prevents the acquirement of the best places that can be obtained. It is a well understood condition; if you have no money, you don't buy, and if your money be little, your expectations are naturally small. But it is common to see men with little they can pay or give in the way of ability and knowledge, asking for the

best they see. If they get what they are after on credit, it does not last long, for they are not able to pay enough even to bind the bargain.

No mechanic has one tool alone for all work, but with many he can make good work. It is not wise to be too self-sufficient. Self-reliancy includes the knowledge of one's ability; also one's own limitations and wisdom to utilize the powers and strength of others. In the same way the others will use him. It is an exchange from which all profit. Yet many try to do too many things, and so dissipate their energy. They do not see the power that exists in concentration. They allow their shot to scatter. Two are better than one. What one lacks, another can supply, and when one fails the other will help him. The spirit of the times is co-operation. More and more are coming to work together. "A three-fold cord is not quickly broken." H. J. Wardwell.

Notes

Jan. 1. Each boy received a diary and pencil from Manager Mr. Thomas F. Temple.

Jan. 3. Skating by moonlight.

Jan. 4. Candy, fruit and cakes received from Miss C. E. Stubenrauchs.

Jan. 5. Saturday. Fine skating. Boys all on the ice in the afternoon and evening.

Scraped and shellaced the floor of the first schoolroom.

Jan. 6. Graduate William G. Cummings spent the day at the School.

Jan. 7. Winter term of school began.

Jan. 8. Long distance telephone inspected.

Jan. 9. Dr. Osgood of the Harvard Veterinary Hospital here to attend a sick cow.

Jan. 10. Light snow storm.

A portable contractor's lamp of 2,000 candle power came from the Kitson Lighting Co. We have been using one of their street lamps for several weeks.

Jan. 11. The dredger which has been working at the south end of our Island, finished the contract and hauled off.

Jan. 12. Saturday. Boys enjoyed the day coasting.

Staging in the new tower removed.

Jan. 14. First grade boys spent the evening on the ice.

Finished excavating under the assembly room, and laid the timbers for the new floor.

Jan. 16. Arthur I. Purdy left the School to live with his sister at 115 Maple St., Danvers, Mass.

Rank in classes for the last term of school read in chapel.

Jan. 17. Blacksmith shod all the horses.

Manager Mr. Francis Shaw visited the School.

Re-arranged the gang plank at City Point landing.

Jan. 19. Eight boys attended the Poultry Show.

Jan. 20. Semi-annual award of Shaw Prizes and Temple Consolation Prizes.

Jan. 22. The first school in session in its new room for the first time.

Sixty singing books received from Miss S. J. Eddy.

Jan. 23. Roger S. Drought entered the School.

Jan. 26. Graduate Samuel F. Butler came and spent Sunday at the School.

Jan. 27. Sunday. Twenty-one boys attended church.

Jan. 28. A march for the band dedicated to "Our Superintendent" presented to the School by the composer, graduate Harold E. Brenton.

Four fresh heifers returned that left the Island as calves. Through the kindness of Manager Mr. Francis Shaw they have been running with his young stock.

Jan. 30. Dr. Osgood here.

In the evening, exercises commemorative of Queen Victoria by the boys and instructors.

Mr. Cole, instructor in vocal music, passed the night here.

January 1, the Cottage Row citizens had their regular quarterly election of officers resulting as follows:—

Mayor, Frederick Hill; Aldermen, William I. Ellwood, George Thomas, George E. Hart; assessor, Charles F. Spear; street commissioner, Alfred Lanagan; chief of police, Samuel W. Webber; foreman of jury, Frederick Hill. The mayor appointed as clerk, Daniel W. Laighton; curator, Walter D. Norwood; librarian, Carl L. Wittig; treasurer, Henry Bradley; janitor, Jacob Glutt. The chief of police appointed as his patrolmen, Andrew W. Dean, Frederick P. Thayer and Samuel A. Waycott.

Farm School Bank

Cash on hand Dec. 1st, 1900,	$321.06
Deposited during the month,	41.85
	$362.91
Withdrawn during the month,	15.39
Balance Jan. 1st, 1901,	$347.52

Conduct Prizes

The semi-annual distribution of the Shaw Prizes, the Temple Consolation Prizes, and the Honorable Mentions for the half year just ended, took place at Sunday evening chapel, January 20. The Shaw Prizes consist of money, ranging in amounts from five to one dollar. The Temple Consolation Prizes are books. The award of these prizes is based upon our grade system of marking. The list in order of rank follows:—

Shaw Prizes.

1, William Austin 2, Ernest Curley
3, Horace P. Thrasher 4, Clarence DeMar
5, Fred F. Burchsted 6, Samuel Webber
7, William B. May 8, Fred W. Thompson
9, George Thomas 10, Samuel Weston

Temple Consolation Prizes.

11, Edward L. Davis 12, Charles A. Taylor
13, C. Alfred H. Malm 14, Carl L. Wittig
15, George McKenzie

Honorable Mention.

16, Daniel Laighton 17, Thomas Maceda
18, George E. Hart 19, John W. Robblee
20, Harris H. Todd

Rank in Classes

Boys who ranked first and second in their respective classes for the fall term, ending December 21, are as follows: —

First Class

George G. Noren George Thomas

Second Class

Daniel W. Murray Harold S. Taylor

Third Class

Clarence DeMar Warren Holmes

Fourth Class

Frank S. Miley Charles H. O'Conner

Fifth Class

Charles Warner Albert L. Sawyer

Sixth Class

John F. Nelson William F. O'Conner

An Intelligent Horse

We have a white horse by the name of Jim. All the boys like this horse because he is so tame and won't bite. He works mostly in the tip cart. Sometimes Mr. McLeod takes Jim in the span. When Jim thinks Dan isn't doing his share of pulling he will take Dan by the nap of the neck and give it a ring; then Dan starts up and does a little more work. One time Clarence Barr was driving him; Jim started up and Barr fell off behind his heels. Jim was on a gallop but when he found out where Clarence was, he stopped short and Barr didn't get hurt. Sometimes when one of the boys goes into his stall he begins playing with him and before the boy knows it he has got a button off his coat and it is broken into four or five pieces. One time over at the dikes we had Jim to haul gravel. We loaded him up with gravel and instead of driving him we let him go himself; he would go over to the dike where a boy would turn him around and tip the load then set him on the track. He would come back turn around and back into place for another load with out any help. Alfred Lanagan.

"To make it people's interest to advance you, by showing that their business will be better done by you than by any other person, is the only solid foundation of success; the rest is accident." *Reynold to his Nephew.*

Cleaning the Clothing Room

While the alterations were going on, the clothing room was used for a sewing room. When it was moved out, it was thought that there had better be a general cleaning up. First all the curtains were taken down and washed, starched and ironed. I took all the clothes off of one side of the top shelf, dusted it off, and then washed it. The clothes were then brushed to get the dust off and to see if there were any moths in them. They were then put up again. The same thing was done to all of the clothes; some had to be taken out and brushed outside, they were so dusty. After it was all done the curtains were put up and I scrubbed up the floor. Cloths about two yards square, which are called plaids, were then put over the clothes on the top shelf. Mrs. Bradley told me how and where to put the clothes. I was very glad to get done. The room looked a good deal cleaner than it did before.

CHARLES W. JORGENSEN.

A Trip to the City

Just before Christmas Mr. Bradley took some of us to see the different decorations in the city. We started for Central Wharf at half past ten and got there at about eleven o'clock. We first went through the markets that were decorated with evergreens, ribbons, colored lights and the meats in different shapes. I left the other fellows in the market and went on a couple of errands in the city and the others went around for the same purpose. When I got done I came back to the steamer and got Howard Hinckley to come aboard the steamer City of Gloucester. I wanted to see the boat, so we went on board and the Captain showed us how the movements were controled from the pilot house. After a while the other boys came and we went all over the ship again and the pilot got the steam steering gear going so as to show us how the boat was steered. We enjoyed ourselves very much and are thankful for the privilege of going.

CHARLES A. EDWARDS.

Repairing the Second Dining Room

The chimney in the No. 2 dining room and also the brick ovens have lately been torn down and then bricked up again where the steam heater's chimney is. Miss Galer, my instructor, had two other boys and myself get some scrapers and some water in pails and a couple of clothes and we soaked the paper and scraped it off. We tried to see who could take the largest piece off in one pull. Miss Galer got the largest piece. When we got the paper off, the next day we scraped the wall. The paint was the hardest to get off because we could not soak it. We got some old chisels and began to scrape the paint off. It was fun to see it fly around when we scraped, but when some flew in our eyes it wasn't fun at all. In some places the paint was tight to the wall and there we made small nicks in the wall so the last hard coat of plaster would stick.

SAMUEL A. WAYCOTT.

Measurements

Recently there have been some cards put up in the dining-room, dormitories, schoolroom and other rooms where the boys go. They have printed on them the length, width and the height of the room. They are put up so we can learn to estimate the size of a building or room. In the principal room of a building is a card which tells the length, width and height of the building and the distance between floors. From Audubon Hall a hundred feet was measured down the street of Cottage Row. A post was put up by the Oak Cottage with "100 ft." painted on it. Some cards have been tacked up on the bins down in the barn telling the number of bushels they hold, also the number of cubic feet in them and their dimensions. Mr. Bradley had us guess the number of bushels one of them held. It held about one thousand bushels. Some boys guessed two hundred bushels, others sixteen hundred, and one boy guessed nine hundred. That was the nearest any one came. An acre has been measured off between the campus and Highland Road also.

CLARENCE DEMAR.

81

Alumni

George N. Seaman, '60, is in the wholesale and retail Japanese business at 73 & 75 Pearl Street, Boston. He has a large store and does an extensive trade. His life since leaving the School has been an interesting one. At the outbreak of the Civil War he enlisted in the 24th Mass. Volunteer Infantry. This organization was made up principally from "The New England Guard," the then oldest militia company of Boston. With it he saw service for three years. This regiment contained quite a group of Farm School boys, among them being John Armstrong, John Robinson, William Ackerman, Edward Finnegan and Joseph King, all of whom except the last were musicians. For a time Mr. Seaman was the personal orderly of General Osborne, a Massachusetts officer. When the term of this regiment was up, he re-enlisted for nine months in the 44th Mass. regiment.

At the end of the war the West was offering inducements to young men. Mr. Seaman started for the new country to seek his fortune. The Northern Pacific Railroad was then just building and he went along with it as fast as it advanced. At Detroit City he remained and helped build the town. He erected the first plastered house in the town, and opened a general store. He became president of the town council and postmaster. The Indians were numerous and the trade with them was considerable. The famous Chippewa chief, "Hole in the Day," was well known by Mr. Seaman, as also was his son.

Later he returned to the East, and started a business of importing and wholesaling Japanese goods. He was one of the first to see the possibilities of this and in the last twenty years has built up an extensive trade. Mr. Seaman has not limited his travelling to this country; he has been in Europe several times. He has a son who is married. Mr. Seaman in winter makes his home in Boston: and has a summer place in Melrose Highlands.

George Byron Fenner, '86, has a position with the Heywood Bros. and Wakefield Co., rattan furniture manufacturers, at their salesroom, 174 Portland St., Boston. Upon leaving the School he went to relatives in Providence, R. I. The next year he went to Mr. William A. Morse at Natick, Mass., and stayed with him three years, at the same time attending school. He married in 1891, and has two children, a boy and a girl. His home is at 45 Cottage St., Chelsea. He said he had been looking forward to a visit to the Island and expressed the intention of coming down the first of the summer.

Frank W. Smith, '89, is a bell boy at the Parker House. He has been in the grocery business and says he has an inclination to go back to it, as his former employer wants him to come back. This speaks well as to industry and usefulness. Frank lives at 4 Burroughs Place, Boston.

George Mayott, '99, after working a year for Dr. J. R. Draper of Westford was employed during the summer by Mr. George C. Lee of Lee, Higginson & Co. at his country place in Beverly. He now has a good place on the nursery farm of F. S. Pratt, Concord, Mass. George is good natured as usual and gets along easily with people.

The following poem was written expressly for Victoria Night by Frank C. Simpson of the second class.

All heads are bowed in sorrow,
And hands clasped 'cross the wave
For one who now lies ready
To fill her earthly grave.

All hard words are forgiven,
All woes have been suspended;
And all nations mourn for her
Whose noble life is ended.

A noble life it was,
One worthy to record,
Her name shall be in the mouths of all,
Commons, Kings and Lords.

And God grant in heaven above,
That friends she may find,
As kind, as true and as numerous
As those she left behind.

Thompson's Island

Beacon

Vol. 4. No. 11. PRINTED AT THE FARM SCHOOL, BOSTON, MASS. March, 1901.

Cottage Row Charter

As Cottage Row government has been growing larger it has been found that the charter was not full enough to cover all the details that came up. So a new one was framed in its stead. There were twenty-five sections in the old charter; the new one has thirty-eight. The new charter makes all the boys of the School citizens after having resided at the School for one year. The old charter just took in owners of shares in cottages. There are two classes, of citizens the property-holding voters and the non-property-holding voters. The property-holding voters are the boys that own one or more shares in a cottage. The non-property-holding voters are the boys that do not own any property. The property holding voters pay a poll tax and a property tax; while the other voters pay a poll tax alone. In the old charter there were three aldermen and seven jurymen. There are now five aldermen and nine jurymen, three share holding aldermen and two non-share holding aldermen. The mayor called several meetings to consider the charter. The mayor read each section and then called on the citizens to tell their opinions and they were expressed in many ways. Some of the citizens thought the property holders had too much right, while others thought they did not have enough.

The new charter introduces three radical changes first, a large number of new voters is created, second taxation is made a matter of law and third the executive officers are given fuller powers and they are separated from the legislative branch. The principle officer of the administration of Cottage Row is the mayor. It is the duty of the mayor to be vigilant and active at all times in causing the laws to be put in force and duly executed and shall see that the officers do not neglect their duty. He shall call meetings of the board of aldermen, and cause the city clerk to issue suitable notices to the members of said board. He shall from time to time recommend all such measures, as may tend to the improvement of Cottage Row. The non-property holding candidates for aldermen who receive the highest number of votes and the second highest number of votes shall be declared elected. The three property holding candidates who receive the highest number of votes shall be declared elected. If a non-share holding alderman during his term of office becomes a share holder he has to resign and his sucsessor immediately be elected from the non-share holding voters. Whenever a vacancy occurs in the board of aldermen there shall be an election two days after the vacancy. The chairman of the board of aldermen is elected from the share holding aldermen. He presides at all meetings of the aldermen and in case of vacancy in the office of mayor he shall exercise all the powers, and perform all the duties of the office. He may still have a vote in the board but shall not have the veto power. The two non-property holding aldermen shall not have any vote relating to the value of property or the tax thereon. The judical power is vested in a judge who is elected by the citizens and has to be a share holding citizen. He holds his office during good behavior or until he shall cease to be a share holder. It is the duty of the judge to preside at all trials, issue warrants for arrest impose sentences and administer all oaths not otherwise provided for.

The judge takes his oath of office before

the mayor. He compiles rules for the government of trials, etc. In absence of the judge the mayor may appoint a special justice for any trial. The power of this special justice shall be only for the case for which he was appointed. The chief of police shall see that order is maintained at public meetings; and it is his duty to preserve the peace of the playground. To this extent he and his patrolmen under him, have authority over all thereon. The jury shall consist of nine citizens which shall be impanelled for each case, from all non-office holding citizens. No lawyer shall be subject to jury duty. All trials must be by jury. Any person having reason for an arrest to be made applies to the judge for a warrant, and if it is granted the police shall make it within one day of receiving the warrant. No citizen shall be a candidate for more than one office. In the old charter a citizen could be a candidate for as many offices as he liked.

The aldermen every quarter levy taxes upon each of the shares in Cottage Row based upon the valuation made by the Assessor; this shall be paid by the owners to the treasurer. They also levy a poll tax on the citizens whether share holders or not, it has to be paid within thirty days to the treasurer. If neglecting to pay the poll tax within thirty days they forfeit their right to vote at all elections until the same is paid; together with an additional amount to be determined by the board of aldermen. The share holding citizens may put candidates in the field for all officers except for the two non-share holding aldermen but shall have the right to vote for them. The non-share holding citizens may vote for all offices except assessor. No non-share holding voter shall be a candidate for any office except for one of the two non-share holding aldermen. After a long debate the charter was passed February twenty-fifth. Twenty-eight votes were cast, one vote was thrown out and twenty-seven votes in favor of the charter.

DANA CURRIER.

Red Cross Ambulance

When the boys elected their generals, and they in turn chose their officers and privates for the snow-fort battle there were a few boys that did not care to go into the conflict and so they were told to take seats in the front of the room aside from the other boys. There were ten of us and Mr. Bradley thought it would be a good scheme to organize a Red Cross Society, at the head of which he put me. He told me to make my plans beforehand and have a company provided with bandages, stretchers and water to use in caring for "the wounded and dying." The day of the battle came and we were on hand for service. In the morning I had made a rough stretcher out of wood, not expecting to use it, but did use it. Samuel Webber and myself had a red cross sewed on our left coat sleeve and we carried the stretcher. There was one boy in the fight that hurt his ankle a little. We laid him out and took off his shoes and stockings. We carried him to the washroom and bathed his leg in hot water. He soon recovered. The other members of the Red Cross Society were used in picking up hats, mittens and other things and putting them in a pile off one side where the boys could get at them easily.

ALBERT H. LADD.

Diaries

On January first, before we had our bath at night, Mr. Bradley brought a large bundle into the Chapel. When he had opened the bundle, he said that Mr. Thomas F. Temple, one of the Managers of the School, had given each of us a diary. The name of them is "The Excelsior Diary." He also sent us lead pencils to write in them with. Mrs. Bradley read off our names, and as she did so we marched up to the desk and Mr. Bradley handed us a diary and Henry Bradley gave out the pencils. On the backs of the diaries are the words, "Compliments of Thomas F. Temple" in gilt letters. They have two pockets in them. The color of the diaries and pencils is Morocco red. I am going to keep my diary clear through the year. The diaries brought up the demand for rubber-bands to put around them.

CHARLES F. SPEAR.

They who seek for faults see naught else.

The Bell

About the first of October work was begun enlarging the second school-room. One of the first things done was the taking down of the bell. The bell hung in a cupola on what used to be called the band-room. This room was going to be added to the school-room and so had to be moved. It weighs five hundred pounds. This with the weight of the cupola amounted to some thousand pounds. Under this weight, the roof gradually spread so that it could be easily noticed out side and was in some danger of falling in. The wood work about the bell was first taken down and then the bell was lowered through a sky-light. After the bell was taken down holes were bored through a timber on each side of the roof, ropes with pulleys and blocks were then hitched on and the roof pulled in; ties were then cut and nailed up so as to hold the roof. The bell was cleaned, and the hangers, tongue, and yoke was given a coat of black varnish. The bell is now on top of the tower being on a stout frame bolted to the roof. The roof was made especially strong for the bell, and can not spread.

JOHN F. BARR.

A Wounded Seagull

A while ago as I was coming from the south end in the one horse team with Mr. Mason, we noticed a seagull on the beach and when it saw us it began to swim off. It swam very fast and, when it got out of a stone's throw, it turned round and watched us, for it was wounded and could not fly. We went on, and a few days later Mr. Byrns went over to the dikes and he saw the gull on the beach. He caught it and brought it up to the barn and found it had a broken wing. He put it in the tool room where it stayed for a few days. He showed it to some of the boys and instructors. We measured the bird all around. From the tip of one wing to the other it was six feet, the bill was two inches long, the body was two feet long, the length of its legs six inches and it stood 10 inches high. We fed it on corn and then let it go.

ALBERT H. LADD.

Getting Fowls ready for the Kitchen

Mr. Mason and two other boys and myself went down to the hen-house to kill some fowls. First Mr. Mason told us what fowls he wanted, then we went in and chased them into the hen-house and shut down the trap. We went into the hen-house and tried to catch the hens. Sometimes they flew into our faces. If we can Mr. Mason wants us to catch the hens by the legs. After we have caught them, we bring them out to Mr. Mason, and he puts their heads on the chopping-block, and chops their heads off with a hatchet. Then he puts them over the hen-yard fence. They jump up and down for some time. When they are still we take them by the legs and carry them down to the pig-pen. Then we get some boxes to put the feathers in. Each boy has a fowl to pick. HARRY LAKE.

Building a New Dike

We have built a new dike on the south western part of the island. We went around the beach with a two-horse team and all the spars and logs we found were carted to the new dike. The method of construction was as follows. First the largest spars were rolled into place at the bottom, then logs were put running back crosswise into the dike and filled in with stones and gravel, then we put on more like the first until we got it five feet high; this made a crib. Where the timbers met we bored a hole part way and drove spikes that were three-fourths of an inch in diameter and from one to two feet long. The crib part of the dike is five feet high, ten feet wide and two hundred feet long. Its whole width is twenty-seven feet.

FREDERICK F. BURCHSTED.

Writing for the Beacon

Near the last of each month we write for the BEACON in school. It is the last thing we do in the afternoon. Our teacher gives us the paper, then each boy selects his own piece to write about. When he has finished he asks to have it corrected. Then the boy copies it over in ink. Then it is carried to the office for Mr. Bradley to look at, to see if its good enough to be printed in the BEACON.

ALBERT W. HINCKLEY.

Thompson's Island Beacon

Printed Monthly by the Boys of the

FARM SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor.

A PRIVATE HOME-TRAINING SCHOOL
DEPENDENT UPON DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS.

Vol. 4. No. 11. March 1901.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE 50 cents per year.

Entered at the Post Office at Boston as second class matter.

BOARD OF MANAGERS

PRESIDENT
RICHARD M. SALTONSTALL

VICE-PRESIDENT
EBEN BACON

TREASURER
ARTHUR ADAMS

SECRETARY
TUCKER DALAND

MANAGERS
MELVIN O. ADAMS
ALFRED BOWDITCH
I. TUCKER BURR, JR.
CHARLES P. CURTIS, JR.
CHARLES T. GALLAGHER
HENRY S. GREW
JOSHUA B. HOLDEN, JR.
JOHN HOMANS, 2d, M.D.
WALTER HUNNEWELL
FRANCIS SHAW
THOMAS F. TEMPLE

CHARLES H. BRADLEY Superintendent

Reading

By Mr. A. Ray Atwood.

Arithmetic, geography, writing and reading are the four corner stones of education. A knowledge of the first prevents other persons from imposing upon or defrauding us; the second gives to one a conception of his own littleness, telling him about the world in which he dwells and of which he is a part; the third enables men to transact business even when the contracting parties are miles apart, it connects distant cities and makes all of the world a unit; by means of the fourth, reading, ideas are transmitted for profit or for pleasure from one generation to another, thus the best of each age is preserved and bequeathed to posterity.

Since reading is necessary if one would know the world's past, it is interesting to ask, what shall we read? The boy desires books on animals, boats, poultry and birds; the farmer looks for articles on agriculture; the botanist for books on plants; the poet for books on poetry; the house-wife for a treatise on the house; all for books on friendship, love and duty.

That any one book should have something to say on these and kindred topics seems preposterous. Such a variety of subjects, we are liable to suppose, are treated of only in a twenty-volumed encyclopedia.

Yet there is one book which poets peruse for thought and accuracy of expression; which authors search for rhetorical figures and facts; which teachers turn to for lessons of life, loyalty and love; a book in which the carpenter and the husbandman, the mechanic and the merchant, the miner and the mariner find the balm of life.

This book pictures different forms and phases of existence and life. The town and the city; the shepherd-boy and the courtly lad; the whitened harvest and the tumultuous sea; the animals of the field and the birds of the air; the fox and the sparrow; herds and flocks; camels and bees, are depicted. It mentions such house-hold utensils as the candle, dishes, bed and broom. It gives a glimpse of social life in the king and the peasant, in the miserable

miser and the perishing poor. In short, what is there not mentioned in the Bible?

Can more interesting reading be found than the drama of Esther or the love-story of Ruth? The wars of David and the ship-wreck of Paul still stir the human mind. Pleasurable and profitable reading is penned upon every page for those who will but seek that they may find.

Notes

Feb. 2. The British flag for the first time floats at half mast from our main flag staff in honor of the Queen whose funeral is today. It is the first time this flag has been flown on the Island, unless perhaps in the days of David Thompson in the early part of the seventeenth century.

Graduate Phillippe J. Parent called.

Graduate Merton P. Ellis came to spend Sunday at the School.

Feb. 4. A heavy snow storm.

Feb. 5. Walter L. Carpenter returned to the School.

Miss Winslow spent the night here.

Feb. 7. Finished laying a new floor in the second schoolroom.

The Harbor Master's boat Guardian made a trip around our wharf for the purpose of breaking the ice in the bay.

Feb. 9. Skating in the evening.

Graduates Robert Blanton and John J. Irving came to spend Sunday at the School.

Feb. 10. Mr. E. W. Masters, and his Columbia Orchestra gave a concert at 3 P. M. This was arranged by Graduate William G. Cummings.

Graduates Howard B. Ellis and William Cummings called.

Feb. 11. Manager Mr. Francis Shaw visited the School.

Boys chose sides for snowball battle, of Feb. 22nd.

Feb. 13. A large field of ice prevents crossing.

Feb. 14. The Guardian came to break ice and carried passengers to the city.

Feb. 16. Joseph Carr went to work on the farm of Mr. Thomas C. Berry, Berlin, Mass.

New Chandler adjustable desks and seats put down in the first schoolroom.

First trip in a row boat since Jan. 28.

Feb. 18. Several boys went to see Denman Thompson in the "Old Homestead" in the evening.

Electrician here from Couch and Seeley.

Feb. 19. Clearing up and burning rubbish washed in by storm of Dec. 4.

Feb. 20. Book "A Great Treason" presented to the library by Mr. A. A. Cole.

Man from Couch and Seeley's to overhaul telephones and bells.

Feb. 21. Steamer PILGRIM at Lawley's for new propeller.

Feb. 22. Snow ball battle. "Boers" won; Frederick Hill general.

Feb. 23. Graduate Ernest W. Austin came to spend Sunday at the School.

Finished putting local telephones and electric bells in working order.

Feb. 24. Sunday Mr. Atwood conducted the service in Mr. Macnair's place.

Feb. 25. Dr. juris Max Horstmann of Heidleberg and a member of the state government of Baden spent the afternoon in looking over the School.

Feb. 26. The large water heater in the laundry taken to pieces for repairs.

Farm School Bank

Cash on hand Feb. 1st, 1901,	$347.52
Deposited during the month,	13.08
	$360.60
Withdrawn during the month,	8.99
Balance March, 1st, 1901,	$351.61

Snow Fort Battle

On Washington's Birthday we had our regular snow fort battle between the forces of England and Transvaal. The sides were chosen nearly two weeks before so as to have time to build their respective forts. In the morning of Washington's Birthday the officers of each side met in the gymnasium and finished making the rules, and decided the kind of attacks and choosing up for the flags. One of the funniest rules was that anyone caught spying at the enemies forts while they were making them, would be court martialled and obliged to wear dresses until after the battle, but no one was caught. At half past two the sides went up to the gymnasium and lined up: the rules were explained and the colors given out, after which three cheers were given for the flags. The forces then marched out into their forts which were six and a half feet high, and got ready. The first attack was to be a joint one; that is, both sides would attack each other's fort at the same time leaving a party to defend their own fort. The object of each party was to get ten sawdust bags out. The forts could only be attacked on the front. The attack was to last ten minutes, both sides made great efforts to get a bag but neither side even got in. Then came the alternate attack, of ten minutes for each attack, that is, each side attacked the enemies fort with their whole force, while all the opponents defended it. The Boer force under General Hill stormed the British fort under General Curley. Again and again they tried but were driven back, and at the end of the time the flag of "Old England" floated in triumph over the unconquered fort. Then the English made an attack on the Boer fort, as the front of the fort was all ice they put dirt over it so as not to slip. With equal bravery they stormed the fort but in the same manner were pushed back. At the end of the time it was the Boer cheers that filled the air. As neither side had won the battle as yet, it was decided to have another alternate attack of five minutes each, this time using the British fort and being allowed to attack on all sides and have the twenty bags in the centre of the fort. The English made the attack first and got about ten of their force inside and just as the whistle blew they got a bag out. It was the turn of the Boers next, and in a few minutes most of them were over the walls and got a bag out after a hard fight and almost had another but the whistle blew and prevented it. The sides then had to run for the bags, they being an equal distance between the forts, and try to get them inside their own forts. This was to last five minutes. This part of the fight was not as even as the rest of the fight in the result, as when it was over the Boers had twelve of the nineteen bags used, and the English forces four, the rest being fought over, and the victory was won after one of the toughest fights that most of the boys have been through. The Boers then lined up and marched around the house with their trophy, which was divided out in the gymnasium, the defeated officers being invited to participate.

C. Alfred H. Malm.

English.	Boers.
General.	
Ernest Curley.	Frederick Hill.
Captain.	
William Austin.	William Ellwood.
1st. Lieutenant.	
Dana Currier.	John Barr.
2nd. Lieutenant.	
Charles Edwards.	Howard Hinckley.
Color Bearer.	
Edward Davis.	George Hart.
Clarence Barr.	Ralph Anderson.
Charles Blatchford.	Walter Butler.
Frederick Burchsted.	Don Clark.
George Burk.	Harry Chase.
Harold Burnes.	James Clifford.
Jacob Capaul.	John Conklin.
Clarence DeMar.	Andrew Dean.
William Dinsmore.	William Flynn.
James Edson.	William Frueh.
Jacob Glutt.	Edwin Goodnough.
Barney Hill.	Charles Graves.
Ralph Holmes.	Chester Hamlin.
Leslie Jones.	Walter Carpenter.
Joseph Keller.	George Hicks.

George Leighton.	Charles Hill.
Daniel Laighton.	Albert Hinckley.
John Lundquist.	Warren Holmes.
William May.	Ralph Ingalls.
Robert McKay.	Charles Jorgensen.
George McKenzie.	Ernest Jorgensen.
Daniel Murray.	Alfred Lanagan.
John Nelson.	Thomas Maceda.
George Noren.	Alfred Malm.
Walter Norwood.	Louis Means.
Charles O'Conner.	Frank Miley.
Joseph Pratt.	James Pratt.
John Robblee.	Albert Probert.
Frank Simpson.	Axel Renquist.
Charles Spear.	Joseph Robblee.
C. Archie Taylor.	Albert Sawyer.
Edward Taylor.	Harold Taylor.
Clarence Taylor.	Frederick Thayer.
Frederick Thompson.	George Thomas.
Horace Thrasher.	Frederick Walker.
Thomas Tierney.	Charles Warner.
John Tierney.	Samuel Waycott.
Harris Todd.	Frank Welch.
Carl Wittig.	Samuel Weston.
Chester Welch.	Lester Witt.

Daisy

Daisy is my Norwegian pony. She is about the size of a Shetland pony. The color of her is sorrel, but when she is clipped the color is almost a cream. In the morning after breakfast I go to the barn and clean her with a brush and card her mane and tail and sometimes I braid them. Sometimes after dinner, I take her out doors until school time. I have a saddle and bridle and martingale, a dog-cart, harness, string of bells and whips. At night I go down to the barn and bed her and give her a drink. She always looks for me and if I walk by and don't notice her, she will shake her head and whinny. In the summer I play "Cow Boy" and "Indian" with her and do all sorts of things. She eats all kinds of grain; also hay, sugar, apples, grass, doughnuts, toast and gems. Dr. Wentworth, who is at the State House, got her from Illinois when she was only three feet high. He kept her in a dry-goods box. She would often walk into his kitchen and look all around and then walk back to her box in the wood shed. After she grew to full size, he went to Long Island, where he was Superintendent. When he went away from there, he sent "Daisy" down to me, because his children could not use her in the city. I have had her almost four years and last Christmas papa bought her for me. Next summer, I am going to camp and intend to take her with me. This camp is on Lake Champlain in Vermont.

HENRY BRADLEY.

The Organization of the New Band

A few weeks ago Mr. Morse, our band instructor, organized a beginner's band, or as it is more commonly known, the new band. Every boy is tried in singing before he may enter the band. You often hear a beginner say he don't see why you have to sing before you may enter the band. Now a boy must have a good ear for music in order to get along on an instrument. If a boy can not sing he is not apt to have a good ear for music. This is the reason for singing. After the boys are picked out, each is given an instrument to play on and a mouthpiece for the instrument. The first thing a boy does is to learn to make a good tone; then comes the scales. The object of this band is to have boys ready to take the place of the old band boys who go away. GEORGE E. HART.

Taking Care of the Furnace

In the morning after breakfast I go to the west basement and fix the fire in the furnace. I shake it down so it will look bright, take six shovels of hard coal from the bin near the furnace and put them on the fire and poke the sides down well. If the coal fills the fire box higher than the level of the door I don't put on all the coal but let a little burn up and then put the rest on. Then I get some cold water in a bucket that is used only for that purpose and fill a little trough on the door full so to moisten the air. We use a coal tally for the hods used a day, two shovels to a hod, and a hod weighs twenty-five pounds. By the weekly tallies we are able to estimate the amount of coal used a year.

JOHN W. ROBBLEE.

Alumni

HENRY A. FOX, '79, for the first few years after leaving the School worked in a provision store on Somerset St., Boston. Near by was a fire engine house, which was to him a great attraction, and he soon became desirous of becoming a fireman. As soon as he was old enough, he applied and was taken onto the force, and has continued in it ever since. Until last fall he has always been stationed down town in the heart of the business section, which gives a fireman more experience but at the same time necessitates harder work and is more dangerous. Captain Fox has been in all the hard fires and has had many exciting and narrow escapes. For a number of years he was driver for his engine, a position requiring much skill and daring.

Six years ago he was promoted to Lieutenant and was stationed at Engine 25, Fort Hill Square. Last October (1900) he was made a Captain and assigned to Engine 12 Dorchester on Dudley St. This advancement comes as the reward of long, hard and good service. The position is one of great responsibility. The management of fires in his district which is a thickly populated residential one is in his hands. He has the hearty congratulation of the Farm School for his success.

JOSEPH H. SMART '87, is employed as a machinist at the Star Brass Manufacturing Co., 114 East Dedham St., Boston. He is married and has a little daughter two years old. His home is at 61 Jefferson Avenue, Chelsea.

WILLIAM W. SMEATON, '89, is in the hardware business on his own account at 145 Norfolk St., Dorchester. He has a good sized store and carries a stock of general hardware. His trade is increasing and he has a man to help. A considerable part of his work is repairing and key fitting, in which his training as a machinist and his mechanical tastes are useful. William is used to depend on himself, and with the enterprise and business activity he has already shown, can be counted upon to succeed.

HERBERT E. BALENTINE '00 is learning the machinist trade at the S. A. Woods Machine Co. in South Boston. Herbert is steady and capable and is doing well and giving satisfaction. He is now on a milling machine. He lives with his mother at 27 Dexter St. South Boston.

Alumni Notice

On Tuesday evening, March 5th, 1901, a meeting of the graduates who are interested in the organization of a band was held in Abbotsford Hall, City Square, Charlestown. There were about twenty-five graduates present, and a great deal of interest was shown.

President French, of the Alumni Association, presided at the meeting until other business took him away, and on his departure Mr. A. B. Steele took the chair.

Very general approval to the plan to organize a band was expressed, and the report of the Committee appointed on Thanksgiving Day by President French, recommending such a movement was duly accepted.

A temporary organization was effected, Mr. French being elected Manager, Howard B. Ellis, Leader, and A. B. Steele, Howard Ellis, George Bennet, H. W. French and Ervin Oaks were elected a committee on By-laws. Another meeting will be held at some time within the next two months, when, it is expected, a band of Farm School graduates will be permanently organized.

Votes were passed to the effect that no one should be a member of this band who was not a Farm School graduate; that the number of members should be unlimited; and that it should be purely a mutual and co-operative organization.

It was pleasing to find that so many of the graduates have instruments and the general interest shown was especially gratifying.

WILLIAM G CUMMINGS,
SEC. to the meeting.

Manners should bespeak the man, independent of fine clothing. The general does not need a brilliant coat. *Ralph W. Emerson.*

Thompson's Island

Beacon

Vol. 4. No. 12. PRINTED AT THE FARM SCHOOL, BOSTON, MASS. April, 1901.

COTTAGE ROW.

During the winter there is less activity in Cottage Row. Now the weather is becoming warmer and the ground is drying, the owners go more to their cottages. The grounds are raked and smoothed, the paths, gullied by winter rains, are repaired with clay and gravel, and in the cottages spring cleaning commences in earnest. The boys who ply the trades of carpenter and painter will be busy making repairs for those who can afford to hire assistance; while those whose bank accounts are small do the work themselves. With the warm weather the pet animals will be moved back to Audubon Hall for the summer. From now on through the summer Cottage Row will be the center of life of the play-ground, as it has been for the last thirteen years.

The new charter of Cottage Row recently adopted which was sumarized by one of the boys in the last number of the Beacon, made citizens of most of the boys who do not own shares in cottages. By thus giving larger political privileges, opening a field for leadership and office holding hopes, and especially by making all the boys feel that they are a part of the organization, more interest has been shown and the boys have

participated more intelligently in the workings of the government. In several instances this has stimulated boys to buy shares in cottages that they might, as property holders, have more voice in the government. As a source of amusement and as a method of training boys in business, the ownership of property, and the operations of government, Cottage Row has been widened by the adoption of the new charter.

H. J. Wardwell.

Steam Heat

Among the improvements made here is the steam heat which was put in by Walker, Pratt Mfg. Co. To start with we had to bore the holes in the floor for the steam pipes which led to the radiators. When this was done the steam fitters took the measurements for the pipes. In the washroom and second schoolroom there are steam coils instead of radiators. The boiler room is where the vegetable cellar used to be. The boiler is tested for eighty pounds; two pounds will warm everything up. The furnaces that were in the wash room and dining room have been removed. The radiators have been bronzed, and all the pipes that were not bronzed were black varnished. Some of the pipes have asbestos packing around them. This comes in rolls three feet long with cheese cloth on the outside, this is for the straight pipe, forty-fives, Ts and elbows. John Barr and myself did the packing. In some places we had to build boxes to go where there were a number of joints; the boxes were filled with mineral wool. Some of the elbows and Ts we covered with asbestos cement and then with cloth. All the cloth is stuck on with paste and then metallic bands put on.

DANA CURRIER.

Covering the Steam Pipes

Since we had our steam heating apparatus put in, the pipes have had to be covered in the places where they are exposed to the cold, so as to keep them from freezing and to save fuel and the wear of the boiler. The covering is made of felt with some asbestos paper underneath, so the felt will not touch the hot pipes. Some thin cloth is put on the outside to hold it together. In high pressure, asbestos alone is used instead of felt. In putting on the covering it is split in two so as to go on the pipes easily. The people that pack and send the covering send also some starch to make some paste with which we stick the covering together. They sent some brass bands in sizes with the pipes to hold the covering firm until the paste hardens and then we take them off. There are regular fittings, but they did not fit well so Mr. Bradley had Dana Currier make some out of asbestos cement for the elbows, Ts. forty-fives and around the boiler.

JOHN W. ROBBLEE.

Working on Settees

Lately I was given the work of repairing some settees and a few benches which are used in summer on the lawns and in the groves for people to sit on and enjoy the warm days. All the settees are taken in the shop basement to be looked over and the ones that need repairs are set one side and those that don't are taken down to the barn and stored. Those that are set aside are taken up in the shop and the pieces that are broken, rotten, or worm eaten are taken off and some new ones are made out of good wood for the places that need them. The settees are then taken down to the paint shop and washed thorougly ready to be painted. There are two settees that we don't paint. The iron part is scraped with the metal brush and black varnished. The wooden strips are scraped, the bolts are put on again and are shellaced so it makes them look new again.

JOSEPH E. K. ROBBLEE.

Care of Horses

At quarter of five o'clock I am waked up by the watch-man. I get a pail of hot water in the kitchen and go down to the barn. The water is used to wash the white horse, Jim. After I have lighted all the lanterns, I put them in their high places. I get my curry-comb and brush and clean the horses. It takes about half an hour to finish them. After this I give them their hay and corn meal. At five P. M. I go down and water the horses and bed them. Then I give them their hay and meal again.

CHARLES A. BLATCHFORD.

My Vacation

During our vacation my brother and I had the privilege of twice paying a visit to some of our friends in the city. The first time we left the Island at about eleven o'clock and arrived at the house in Back Bay just in time for lunch. In the afternoon we went to the Colonial Theatre to see the play, "Ben Hur." As our tickets were bought beforehand we did not have to wait but walked right in and took our seats, which were central orchestra seats. We got there about three minutes early. The play ended at five o'clock. It was a fine play. I thought the most exciting parts were when Ben Hur was in one of the galleys that were fighting against the pirates, and the chariot race. I thought, as most everybody thinks, that it was a fine play. We thanked our friends very much for taking so much trouble in giving us so much pleasure. The next time we went over, we went about eight o'clock. We spent the morning in looking over the city and visiting the large stores. In the afternoon we went to the Art Museum. We spent most of the time in looking at the famous paintings. The part where the Japanese things are is very interesting, the Japanese swords, dishes, dresses and crystals. In the jewelry department we saw a watch that was worn by Queen Charlotte, the wife of King George III of England. We saw the Egyptian mummies and some very ancient tablets. We also saw plenty of statues which were copied from some that Michael Angelo made. We came back about five o'clock and were very thankful for having such a privilege.

GEORGE THOMAS.

Bicycle Riding

A few of the boys are spending their extra time on the bicycle. There are three bicycles in the School. If a boy can ride, he can usually have a turn by asking. We try to be careful as to whom we let take our wheels, as it is not an easy matter repairing them always. One wheel is in sore need of two tires. We ride around the house and other places on the gravel. On Saturday afternoons, when there is plenty of time, we ride on the beach road. A boy that can go down the avenue is considered a pretty good rider.

GEORGE E. HART.

Bathing the Parrot

Jack, the parrot, needed a wash, so Miss Wright said that I might get a tub and fill it with water. The water was luke-warm so there was no fear of his catching cold. The top of the cage was taken off, but would not fit in the tub. We tipped one end higher than the other; Jack then took the higher end for his perch. Seeing that he would not take his bath in a peaceful manner, the water was poured down on him and it rolled off as soon as it got on. At last I put on a pair of leather mittens, for, if Jack once bites you, you won't forget it for a while. I kept my fingers well away from the end of the mitten and let him take a bite. He put his bill well into the leather and then I pulled him off the side of the cage. His little bow legs could not hold as long as his bill so he was ducked. There was no fight left in him after his duck, so he was taken near the fire. After about half an hour, Jack was as noisy as ever. For about a week Jack was so clean and bright that everybody noticed it.

GEORGE E. HICKS.

Washing Chairs

When the table work is done in the boys' dining-room, we get our buckets, cloths, scrub-brushes and soap and do the chairs belonging to the tables which we sit in during meals. We first take our brushes and scrub a chair all over, then taking our cloths we wash the soap-suds off and then wipe it dry. There are six chairs to a table and we change our water every six chairs.

CHARLES A. TAYLOR.

Hauling Gravel for the Roads

In the month of March when the roads are just thawing they become too soft for teaming, so we put gravel on them to make them harder. Mr. McLeod and I work with the span and two horse tip-cart hauling gravel for them. We fill up the cart ruts and spread some gravel in the middle of the road. When this gets hardened down we fill them up again. We haul the gravel from the beach by Oak Knoll.

ALFRED LANAGAN.

Thompson's Island Beacon

Printed Monthly by the Boys of the

FARM SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor.

A PRIVATE HOME-TRAINING SCHOOL

DEPENDENT UPON DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS.

Vol. 4, No. 12. April 1901.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE 50 cents per year.

Entered at the Post Office at Boston as second class matter.

BOARD OF MANAGERS

PRESIDENT
RICHARD M. SALTONSTALL

VICE-PRESIDENT
EBEN BACON

TREASURER
ARTHUR ADAMS

SECRETARY
TUCKER DALAND

MANAGERS
MELVIN O. ADAMS
ALFRED EOWDITCH
I. TUCKER BURR, JR.
CHARLES P. CURTIS, JR.
CHARLES T. GALLAGHER
HENRY S. GREW
JOSHUA B. HOLDEN, JR.
JOHN HOMANS, 2d, M.D.
WALTER HUNNEWELL
FRANCIS SHAW
THOMAS F. TEMPLE

CHARLES H. BRADLEY Superintendent

Games and sports, particularly those carried on out of doors are of great importance in the development and training of boys. They are necessary for exercise, and their effects on the body are conspicuous in greater health and vigor. In a similar way, but more slowly and less noticeably, the brain develops and mental habits are formed. The foundations of all the qualities of a man are laid in great measure in the games and plays of childhood, and their nature determines whether the result be good or evil. It is very necessary that the greatest care is exercised at this time of a boy's life in supervising his recreations and amusements. Experience is the sole teacher at this time. All boys gain quickness, reason, control of body, eye and muscle, and a harmony of action of the brain and body by doing things. The degree in which these are acquired depends on the kind and amount of experience. By feeling, lifting and using material things he learns their nature and characteristics. He should learn that subordination of self and co-operation are essentials of successful team work. He finds that if he has no consideration for others, he will receive little himself. Self control, honesty, and other moral qualities can be made habits or not as the boy observes them in play. The reason for this is that play is real to the young child. It is his serious business. It is more true to him than the affairs of grown people, and therefore it is necessay that false ideals get no chance to be adopted. For as the child grows older, he does not discard the old and then get a new set of ideas, but to what he first learned he adds the experience of his age, whatever that may be. It is the first knowledge that makes the point of view from which all later ideas and events are considered, and which modifies them. Facts are less often distorted willfully as from ignorance or mistaken ideas. The attitude of the tough toward stealing is very different from that of the average youth. To the former it is solely against the law, and the dread of punishment is the only motive to be honest. The latter is influenced by this also, but in addition there is a knowledge of moral right and wrong, and the habit to think and do the right thing. He was started properly. The former merely follows his

early habits. At the begining he was as susceptable to good as bad.

The boy who shows keenness and energy will turn out worse if he gets the wrong start, and a right commencing will make the same boy turn out well. In one boy the quality of force will make him a bully and a ruffian; in another it will give him strength of will for right. What is needed is the example to show the relation of right and wrong to action. The difference is not so much in the boy as in the training.

H. F. Wardwell.

Notes

March 4. Graduate Horace F. Edmands spent the night at the School.

March 7. Several boys went to an entertainment.

March 8. John F. Barr left the School to work for the S. A. Woods Machine Co., of South Boston.

March 9. Began repairs in chapel.

Graduate George Mayott called.

March 11. Put down new desks in second school room.

March 12. Warren Harry Bryant entered the School.

March 13. First day of school in new second school room.

March 14. W. P. Karshick here taking measurements for new window shades.

March 16. Graduate Herbert E. Balentine came to spend Sunday.

March 18. Evacuation Day. No school in the afternoon.

March 19. Robins heard for the first time this year.

March 20. Manager Mr. H. S. Grew and Treasurer Mr. Arthur Adams here.

March 21. Putting brick pillars under the boys' dining room.

March 22. Winter term of school closed.

March 23. Graduate William G. Cummings came to spend Sunday.

"Paul Jones, Founder of the American Navy" in two volumes received from Manager John Homans, 2nd, M. D., for the library.

March 24. Sunday. Rev. S. H. Hilliard addressed the boys at 3 P. M.

Graduates Herbert W. French and Howard B. Ellis called.

March 26. Cottage Row citizens had their regular quarterly caucus.

March 27. Graduate Edward Steinbrick with his employer Mr. Karshick putting up the window shades.

Took a load of junk to the Point and brought back a load of dressing from Walworth's.

March 28. Roger Drought left the School to be provided for at Miss C. U. Drinkwater's new Home for boys in Greenwich, Mass.

March 29. William I. Ellwood left the School to work for S. A. Woods Machine Co., South Boston.

A horse received from Mr. W. A. Dupee, of Chestnut Hill.

Farm School Bank

Cash on hand Mar. 1st, 1901,	$351.61
Deposited during the month,	19.03
	$370.64
Withdrawn during the month,	43.03
Balance April 1st, 1901,	$327.61.

Rank in Class

Boys having first and second rank in their classes for the winter term of school ending March 22, 1901 appear below:

First Class

George Thomas. George G. Noren.

Second Class

Harold S. Taylor. Daniel W. Murray.

Third Class

Clarence H. DeMar. Warren Holmes.

Fourth Class

Albert W. Hinckley. Frank S. Miley.

Sixth Class

John F. Nelson. William F. O'Conner.

A man who has any good reason to believe in himself never flourishes himself before the eyes of the people. *David Copperfield.*

Cottage Row Election

April 2, the Cottage Row citizens had their regular quarterly election of officers. Dana Currier who had been judge for nine months, went away to work, so that office had to be filled. The result was as follows,—

Judge, George E. Hart; mayor, George Thomas; aldermen, Samuel W. Webber, Daniel W. Laighton, Frederick F. Burchsted; non-share-holding aldermen, William Austin, C. Alfred H. Malm; assessor, Frank C. Simpson; street commissioner, Frederick P. Thayer; chief of police, Albert H. Ladd. The mayor appointed as clerk, Charles F. Spear; treasurer, Henry Bradley; librarian, Thomas W. Tierney; janitor, Frank E. Welch. The chief chose for his patrolmen, John J. Conklin, Clarence W. Barr, Edward B. Taylor, Andrew W. Dean.

Easter Concert

SONG *Choir.*

OUR HEARTS ARE GLAD AND HAPPY

GREETING *Howard L. Hinckley.*

EASTER GLADNESS

RECITATION *Frank S. Miley.*

THE LITTLE BROWN SEED

SONG *Choir.*

THE BELLS ARE RINGING

RECITATION *Albert L. Sawyer.*

DATE FOR EASTER

EXERCISE *Class.*

JESUS AS A LITTLE CHILD

SONG *Choir.*

HE LIVES AGAIN

EXERCISE *Albert W. Hinckley.* *Horace P. Thrasher.*

LESSON OF THE LILIES

EXERCISE *Class.*

EASTER STORY

SONG *Choir.*

MIGHTY TO SAVE

RECITATION *Charles W. Jorgensen.*

AN EASTER PRAYER

RECITATION *Thomas W. Tierney.*

EASTER THOUGHTS

SONG *Choir.*

IN MY HEART

RECITATION *George F. Burke.*

THE STONE ROLLED AWAY

EXERCISE *Class.*

EASTER ACROSTIC

SONG *Choir.*

RESURRECTION

RECITATION *Samuel A. Waycott.*

ON EASTER DAY

EXERCISE *Class*

THE MESSAGE OF EASTER BELLS

SONG *Choir.*

AWAKE AND REJOICE

EXERCISE *Class.*

THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

SONG *Choir.*

AS MANY AS RECEIVETH

RECITATION *Albert H. Ladd.*

THE MESSAGE

RECITATION *Daniel W. Laighton.*

UNUSED SPICES

SONG *Choir.*

EASTER MELODY

Games in Vacation

In vacation we played hare and hound, bow-wow, hill-dill, hoist the sail and marbles. In playing hare and hound two boys take a number and two more guess. The one that comes the nearest to the number has his choice of the boys to follow him as hare or hound. After the boys have been chosen the hares go out and a little later the hounds try to catch them. To play bow-wow a line is formed with the one who is it in front. The one on the right is called nudger and the one on the left is called the bow-wow. When the nudge is given it is passed down the line until the last one gets it and he says bow-wow; then they turn and run for the goal. The boy who is "it" tries to catch them and the ones he catches have to help him catch the other boys. In playing hill-dill one boy volunteers to be "it" and all the others get on one side of the square then he stands in the centre and says, "Hill-dill come over the hill or else I'll catch you standing still." The boys run back and forth until they are all caught. Then the one that was caught first is "it" next time. I enjoyed my vacation.

HARRIS H. TODD.

Playing Marbles

Of the different games we play, marbles is one of the most popular. It takes some one to start it and then it is all the rage. The Trading Company got in a supply of marbles and did a thriving business, besides boys who had saved them from last year and had more than they needed. Mr. Bradley came out and let the boys scramble for about a thousand marbles. The games of marbles we play most are, "eggs in the bush," "odd or even," "up against the wall," "pig haul," "popping at a glassey" and "rolling at a glassey." To play "eggs in the bush" a fellow holds as many marbles as he wants to in his closed hand and the other fellow guesses, as many as he is out of the way he has to give. Then the other fellow takes his turn at guessing. If a fellow guesses the exact number he gets them all. "Odd or even" is played something like "eggs in the bush," only if he says odd and it is even he has to give one to make it even; if he says even and that is it he gets all the marbles. Any amount of boys can play "up against the wall." One boy throws a marble against the wall, another throws and tries to hit it or come within a spans length; if he hits it or comes within a span he gets one if he does both he gets two. To play "pig haul" the fellows take turns in throwing up against the wall, if either one hits any marble he has them all. If any one gets all out of marbles he is allowed to pick one up from the ground and keep that up until some one wins them; if he does not win any that turn he is what we call skun. He is out of the game if has no more marbles. For "popping at a glassey" one is layed down and the others pop at it. The one that hits it has his turn at laying. A fellow who has a glassey and wants to lay it down can do so. Some boys are saving glassies so this is what he wants. "Rolling at a glassey" is on the same plan as popping only you are not allowed to do any thing but roll. The different kinds of marbies are glassies, crokies, chinies, doggies and whities. We use the last four mentioned as common marbles.

WARREN HOLMES.

Sunday Morning in the Laundry

There are six boys that take turns in working in the laundry Sunday mornings. Each Sunday two boys go in. They collect the clothes bags, wash the floor, make the soft soap, pick up the clothes yard and brings into the house all the clothes and clothes-pins. In making soft soap, a boy gets two large dippers of soap powder. There are two half barrels that the soap is made in. One boy makes it in one barrel and the other boy in the other barrel. Some of the powder is put into a pail and hot water run on. The boy keeps doing this till the powder is used up and the barrel is full. He stirs it awhile and it is all made. After it has set awhile it becomes thick. In collecting the clothes bags, the two boys go around and get them from outside the doors of the instructor's rooms. The instructor that has charge of the laundry, sorts them over, putting the sheets and pillow cases in one basket, the white things in another, the towels in a third and the colored things in a fourth. If a clothes bag does not need washing, it is put back by the door of the room it comes from.

EDWARD L. DAVIS.

Rehearsing

At the time of Easter, Christmas, and days in that line some of us are given a piece to speak. The choir also has to rehearse songs for the concert. In the speaking, sometimes there is a class with two or more boys in it and in other cases one boy speaks alone. This time I spoke in a class of four. When we rehearse, the boys that go to school to Miss Strong rehearse to her and those that go to Miss Winslow rehearse to her, as they are our teachers. Miss Strong also has the choir rehearse to her. Our rehearsing is done in the school-rooms except the night before the concert, when we have our grand rehearsal in the Assembly Hall.

WILLARD H. ROWELL.

"He who has not a good reason for doing a thing has one good reason for letting it alone."

Alumni

MARSHALL L. WILDER, '71, is janitor of Union Hall, Central Square, Cambridge. He inquired about the band of which he had heard. He remembers very well a new set of instruments that was gotten in 1870, and says "nothing could come up to the playing in those days."

EUGENE WATSON, '75, on leaving the School went to New York, entering at once the employ of Watson, Carman & Co., Wholesale Dealers in Millinery Goods; after serving an apprenticeship of two years he went to take a more responsible position with Worthing, Smith & Co., also of New York City. Three years later an opportunity presented itself to enter the Ninth National Bank of New York. After being in the bank for three years and seeing no opportunity for advancememt he accepted the chance to work for his brother who had established himself in the wholesale millinery business in Boston. He returned to New England and for several years traveled for his brother, and then went into the firm. A year later when his brother retired Eugene Watson took the business and formed a partnership known as "Watson & Hutchinson." In 1899 he became interested in a Millinery Trade Paper: finding that it promised large profits and a more congenial occupation he decided to devote his whole time to the publishing business in which he is now engaged. He says, "in all the twenty years since I left the School, I have always felt a pride and interest in it, and while I have seldom visited the School in person, yet, in thought, scarcely a day passes but what it is brought to my attention in one way or another, and I am grateful for the lessons in restraint and hardihood gained while there."

HAROLD E. BRENTON, '90, is one of a number of our graduates who have become successful musicians. About a year ago he was engaged to form and manage the Oliver Ames High School band of North Easton, Mass. The task was not easy, none of the boys could play an instrument. There were twenty-seven boys from thirteen to eighteen years old, all attending school, and about half of them having outside work. For this reason they had but limited time to practice, which increased the difficulty of training them. On Febuary 8th they gave a public concert, which Mr. Bradley attended. It was very successful, and creditable to the boys and to Brenton. They had practiced but seven months, and learned everything in that time, and unassisted played difficult music without mistake. One of the boys was even able to give well a baritone solo and he had never before appeared before an audience. From the beginning Brenton had the entire management and the success he has made of the band shows executive and business ability as well as skill as a musician, patience and the power to influence.

While at the School Brenton played a cornet in the band and practically his only instruction was here. Within a year after graduation, he started in his career as a cornet player, at first low. He won recognition and worked his way up to the place he now occupies among musicians only by work and talent. He is one of the best and most popular cornet players.

He has played every sort of music from circus to grand opera. From this experience he knows every branch of his business and is a rapid reader. The season of 1897 he traveled with Fanny Davenport till her death as chief trumpeter. In 1898 he came to Boston and is first cornet in the Park Theater. Beside this and outside engagements, he is busy with pupils, a number of whom are themselves professional musicians. He is one of the busiest of the leading musicians of Boston.

Brenton has frequently done favors for the school and the boys, and is always willing and obliging. He recently wrote the school march "Our Superintendent" and had it arranged for the band. This is a very pretty and spirited piece, and is very popular. He has on several occasions procured employment as musicians for Farm School boys. He lives with LeRoy S. Kenfield at 129 Pembroke St., Boston.

I n d e x.

Page	Title	Author.
4	The Farm School	James Huxtable
12	J.D.W. French	C.H. Bradley
20	Books	Wm.M. Macnair
25	Saying (Illustrated)	H. F. Wardwell
28	Eduaction	H. F. Wardwell
33	Cuban Teachers (Illustrated)	H. F. Wardwell
36	Play	H. F. Wardwell
41	Lighthouses	F.G. Bryant
44	Harvest	H. F. Wardwell
53	Citizenship and Voting	Wm. M.Macnair
61	Thankfulness	
73	New Year's Greeting	Wm. M. Macnair
81	Co-operation	H. F. Wardwell
89	Reading	A.Roy Atwood
94	Cottage Row (Illustrated)	H.F. Wardwell
97	Games and Sports	H. F. Wardwell

9	Address by Mr. Forbush	Daniel Murray
26	Apples,Picking	George Noren
35	Asphalting	Chas.Blatchford
51	Apples,Picking	Harold Taylor
42	Aster Beds,School's	Leslie Graves
83	Ambulance,Red Cross	Albert Ladd
76	Animals,Some of Our	Leslie Jones
10	Boats,Our	Fred.Burchsted
10	Brenton's Visit	Sam.Webber
11	Band,Changes in the	Chas. Edwards
14	Beaches,Cleaning the	Edward Davis
16	Birds	John Powers
23	Bird's Eggs	Daniel Laighton
31	Books,Covering	Charles Spear
35	Bows and Arrows	Horace Thrasher
50	Buildings on Our Island	Thomas Tierney
51	Bricks,Unloading	Edward Taylor
51	Bricks,Carrying	Frank Welch
51	Blankets	Daniel Murray
47	Boat,Repairing the	Joseph Robblee

48	Bakery Work	Charles Hill
59	Banjos	Daniel Laighton
73	Birds,Skinning	James Edson
68	Blankets,Washing	Edward Davis
88	Band,Organization of the New	George Hart
76	Books I Have Read	Ralph Holmes
76	Birds,Our Stuffed	Charles Spear
78	Barn Work	Clarence Taylor
84	Bell, The	John Barr
84	Beacon,Writing for the	A. Hinckley
92	Bicycle Riding	George Hart
6	Cottage Row Banquet	George Thomas
7	Cottage,Repairing My	Barney Hill
11	Cows' First Day in Pasture	Wm. Roberts
15	Chimneys,Doing	Archie Taylor
24	City Hall, Painting	George Thomas
27	Cricket,Playing	George Hart
26	Camp,Johnson at	Thomas Tierney
31	Clambake	Edwin Goodnough
34	Coal,Getting in	Albert Ladd
39	Cow Boys	Frank Welch
52	Corn,Husking	Edwin Goodnough
55	Corn,Harvesting	William May
52	Cottage Row Caucus	Charles Spear
55	Cottage Row Election	George Thomas
56	Cottage Row Library	Daniel Laighton
56	Carrots,Harvesting	Fred. Burchsted
42	Corn Shelling	Ralph Anderson
42	Cultivating	Don Clark
42	Curiosities-Water	Frank Miley
46	Cottages for the Winter,Fixing the	Fred Burchsted
47	Cellar,Cleaning the	Wm. B. May
60	Cottage Row Trial	Alfrd Malm
66	Christmas	William Austin
80	Clothing Room,Cleaning the	Chas. Jorgensen
82	Cottage Row Charter	Dana Currier
92	Chairs,Washing	Archie Taylor
79	Conduct Prizes	
14	Dormitory Work,Sunday Morning	Elmer Johnson
14	Dressing,Getting	George Noren
14	Ditches,Digging	Chas. Blatchford
19	Diplomas,Presentation of	Dana Currier

35	Driving	James Edson
39	Dining Room,My Work in the	James Pratt
56	Dike,Working on the	Leslie Jones
68	Drilling Holes	Fred Walker
80	Dining Room,Repairing No.2	Samuel Waycott
83	Diaries	Charles Spear
88	Daisy	Henry Bradley
84	Dike,Building a New	Fred Burchsted
95	Easter Concert	
1	Flag Staff,Our	Herbert Balentine
26	Fence,Whitewashing the	Chas. Blatchford
71	Farm House,Working at the	Chas. Jorgensen
71	Flour,Getting in	Charles Hill
72	Helping About the House	Fred Thayer
75	Feed,Cutting	Ralph Anderson
84	Fowles Ready for the Kitchen,Getting	Harry Lake
88	Furnace,Taking care of the	John Robblee
3	Grade,The Second School	James Edson
22	Grove,Cleaning up in the	Newton Rowell
26	Grove,The New	Fred Burchsted
30	Graduating Exercises	Wm. Ellwood
52	Garden Prizes,Giving Out	George McKenzie
95	Games in Vacation	Harry Todd
2	Harbor Craft	Fred Thompson
10	Hill-Dill	John Robblee
11	Hay,Getting	Fred Walker
18	Heifer,A New	Clarence Barr
59	Hose House,Moving the	Frank Simpson
72	House,Helping About the	Fred Thayer
75	Halls,Waxing	Jo. Robblee
79	Horse, An Intelligent	Alfred Lanagan
91	Horses,Care of	Chas. Blatchford
11	Lawns,Mowing	Charles Hill
31	Live-stock,Swimming	H. Balentine
34	Lawns,An Evening on the	James Pratt
48	Leaves,Raking	Wm. Frueh
47	Lockers,The	Axel Renquist
47	Lawn,Playing on the	Leslie Jones
72	Lead,Moulding	Axel Renquist
96	Laundry,Sunday Morning in the	Ed. Davis
2	Mangels,Grinding	Willard Rowell
17	Musicale,A	William Austin
19	Mule, The	Alfred Malm

23	Mosquitoes,Killing	Chas. Bartlett
49	Map Supplement	
65	Masons,Helping the	Walter Norwood
72	Mortar,Mixing	George Hart
80	Measurements	Clarence DeMar
96	Marbles,Playing	Warren Holmes
24	Onions,Planting	John Conklin
59	Oil for Winter,Getting	Chas. Blatchford
39	Pick-ups	Charles Watson
39	Prizes,Giving Out	George McKenzie
35	Plowing	Alfred Lanagan
39	Parrot,The	John Tierney
18	Pork Scraps,Making	Fred Thompson
18	Plumbing	Louis Means
15	Potatoes,Dropping	Ralph Holmes
43	Pigeons,The	Edw. Taylor
43	Plumbing in the Washroom	Fred Walker
72	Pumpkins and Squashes	Don Clark
67	Parade and Rally	Clarence DeMar
92	Parrot,Bathing the	George Hicks
2	Quilts,Taking off	John Tierney
67	Radiators,Washing	James Pratt
92	Roads,Hauling Gravel for the	Alfred Lanagan
96	Rehearsing	Willard Rowell
18	Seals,The Trained	Clarence DeMar
19	Savoy Sextette	John Lundquist
22	Soap,Cutting	Charles Spear
23	Squirrels,The	Ed. Taylor
24	Schoolroom,My Work in the	George Hicks
24	Seeds,Giving Out	Warren Holmes
3	Scow,Launching the	Ed. Davis
15	Shop,Recent Work in the	Dana Currier
15	Sods,Laying	George Hart
35	Shower Bath,The New	Harold Taylor
38	Schoolroom,Scrubbing in the	Ed. Davis
51	Schoolroom,Our	Clarence Taylor
56	Schoolroom Work	Lester Witt
46	Shower Bath, The	H. Hinckley
43	Seaweed,Gathering	John Powers
64	Schoolrooms,Building the	Dana Currier
60	Scow,Unloading the	Ed. Davis
68	Screens,Fixing	John Conklin
87	Snow Fort Battle	Alfred Malam
84	Sea Gull,The Wounded	Albert Ladd

75	Skating	Charles Hill
75	Six-o'clockers,The	Charles O'Conner
75	Slaters,Helping the	Don Clark
91	Settees,Working on	Jo Robblee
91	Steam Heat	Dana Currier
91	Steam pipes,Covering the	John Robblee
3	Turtles,The	Chas. Spear
3	Trip to Deer Island,a	Edw. Goodnough
7	Toques,Changing	Warren Holmes
10	Trip to Brighton	Alfred Lanagan
19	Trip to the War Ships	Ernest Curley
26	Toboggan Chute, The	Harold Taylor
38	Tables,Clearing off the	Archie Taylor
38	Tools,Shining	Louis Means
58	Thanksgiving Day	Wm. Ellwood
64	Tubes,Cleaning	H. Hinckley
68	Tables,Setting	Archie Taylor
80	Trip to the City,A	Chas. Edwards
75	Tag,Playing	Willard Rowell
74	Victoria Night	Fred Hill
52	Vinegar,Making	George Noren
51	Vegetables,Some of Our	Walter Butler
48	Visit to Norumbega Park,My	Arthur Purdy
92	Vacation,My	George Thomas
11	Work,My	Frank Simpson
7	Whist Party,A	Thomas Brown
26	Washroom,My Work in the	Ralph Anderson
34	Weeds,Digging	Newton Rowell
56	Washroom,Painting in the	John Conklin
42	Weeds,Getting	Walter Butler
68	Writing Days	Daniel Murray